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THE SPECTATOR

Full House: "Stewart Rocked!"

by Scott Bixby '11
News Editor

Famed comedian and host of Comedy Central's top-rated Daily Show with Jon Stewart started his Sacerdote Great Names performance with a sentence that brought down the house: "First of all, where the f— am I? I can't help feeling that this would be a wonderful place… to dump a body."

The Hamilton cap-wearing Stewart followed this not-so-subtle reference to Hamilton's isolation with a declaration that, "I didn't see much on the way up here that I couldn't milk."

This began a nearly two-hour performance by Stewart, who joked on topics ranging from the

see ***Stewart,*** *page 3*

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

Comedian and host of *The Daily Show* Jon Stewart gave his Sacerdote Performance to a sold-out crowd on Friday, November 14.

Marge Winner of "ABC" Award

by Haley Riemer-Peltz '12
News Writer

On November 10, 2008, Marjory Petteys, a card-swiper at Soper Commons Dining Hall, was recognized nationally at the Compass Group North America's "Be-A-Star" awards celebration in Orlando, Florida. The Compass Group is a leading food service company, specializing in food management and hospitality. Compass Group also owns Bon Appétit, Hamilton's catering company.

Petteys was the winner of the ABC award, given to employees who go "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" during the previous year. The award is given annually to one employee under the Compass Group throughout North America.

PHOTO BY HALEY REIMER-PELTZ '12

Bon Appetit Employee Marge Petteys and her award.

"Marge represented and embodied the spirit of what the event was all about, recognizing very special people in a very special organization," said Paul Bulau, Bon Appétit district manager. "Marge touched everyone with the Hamilton story. With huge pride Marge let everyone know that the students at Hamilton are taken care of better than any and that Hamilton was a very special experience."

Several Bon Appétit staff members went with Petteys and her husband, Herb, to the ceremony in Orlando. Bulau, Patrick Raynard, general manager of Bon Appétit, and Chief Executive Fedele Bauccio were among Marge's supporters who attended the celebration.

The 2008 "Be-A-Star" National Awards Ceremony was held at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress Resort. The theme of the event was "Radiate, Elevate, Celebrate—The Power in You," which recognized associates who achieved business excellence over the past year. Over 400 Be-A-Star winners and special guests attended the celebration, which included several performances, guest speakers, award presentations, and ended with dancing.

Petteys has been working at Hamilton for 15 years. She expressed what it meant to her to receive the award: "Wherever I go, you kids are always on my mind," she said. "When I won this award, I was totally honored with the recognition of being chosen."

Rage in the Sage: the Puck Drops Today at 7 p.m. for Citrus Bowl 2008 (No Fruit)

by Rebekah Mintzer '09
Senior Editor

Hamilton, like most other institutions of higher education, has a number of traditions that are tons of fun to participate in, but would probably seem bizarre to an outsider. One time-honored Hamilton tradition, the Citrus Bowl, will take place tonight at 7 p.m. at Sage Rink. This annual campus-wide event is not just an opportunity to cheer on Hamilton hockey in a game against Norwich, but a chance to play games, eat candy, get free t-shirts, and maybe chuck an orange or two at the opposing team's goalie.

PHOTO COURTESY AMY GOLDSTEIN '11

A preview of the T-shirt design for the Citrus Bowl.

The Citrus Bowl originated when, years ago, Hamilton students used to throw oranges and other fruit at the opposing team during one hockey game out of the season, much to the chagrin of the visitors. Eventually, the college outlawed fruit throwing, but Student Assembly has since expanded the game into one of the biggest campus events of the year.

This year, the Social Traditions Committee, in conjunction with the rest of the Student Assembly and the Hamilton community, has organized a terrific Citrus Bowl. They will be handing out 500 t-shirts on a first come, first serve basis starting at 6:30. Shirts will be white and students attending the game are asked to wear white for a "white out" effect in the stands. Student Assembly will be handing out orange slice candy to spectators, and those who want to throw something can participate in the Chuck a Puck Contest for a price of only $1. Winners of the contest will get a big prize.

Though Student Assembly is not checking people at the door for fruit, those who would try to sneak it in should be warned that Campus Safety will be on the prowl for illicit citrus and has been known to pat down suspicious students at the door.

The Citrus Bowl is a great opportunity to show Hamilton school spirit and cheer on the hockey team while enjoying a Hamilton tradition.

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Student Assembly Talks Funds, Elections, and the Citrus Bowl

by Amanda Jordan '10
Student Assembly Correspondent

At the brief meeting on December 1, 2008, the Student Assembly discussed funding and committee reports.

Funding:
This week, the SA allocated $2,866.73 in funding to Model UN, STAND, HAVOC, the Film Production Guild, and the Election Committee. This amount was voted on as a lump sum total and unanimously approved. Overall, the SA has spent $92,138.79 this semester.

Committee Reports:
The Food Committee announced that their last meeting of the semester will be held on Friday, December 5, 2008.

The Technology Committee reported that ITS met with representatives from Verizon and AT&T over the Thanksgiving break to discuss cell phone service on campus. Both Verizon and AT&T are currently looking into the issue; however, it may be some time before anything is resolved. Hamilton should receive news from AT&T within the next several months and Verizon by next fall concerning cell phone reception. Additionally, the bandwidth has been updated, so hopefully the internet should be faster.

The Diversity and Accessibility Committee announced that their last meeting of the semester will be held next week.

The Facilities Committee reported that the December movies are in the process of being shipped, so they are not yet available on the movie channel. Additionally, the November movies expired, which is why no movies are currently being shown on the movie channel. The committee is also discussing heating in certain residence halls.

The Social Traditions Committee discussed the Citrus Bowl, which will be held on Friday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. Free T-shirts will be available starting at 6:30 p.m. for the first 500 people to arrive at the game. Hamilton will be competing against Norwich University. Also, the committee would like to remind students to bring $1 for the chuck-a-puck contest being held this year. Additionally, the committee encouraged any students who would like to participate in the planning of FebFest this year to email soctrad@hamilton.edu by Friday, December 5.

The Elections Committee reminded Student Assembly that the SA President and Vice President elections will be held on December 8 and December 9. The candidates are Jake Lacy (President) and Keith Willner (Vice President) or Amy Goldstein (President) and Edwin Gaston (Vice President). The election results will be announced around midnight on Wednesday, December 10. In order to increase voter turnout, the committee plans to stuff mailboxes on Monday, December 8, with reminders for all students to vote.

Lehmann Awarded

by Kara Labs '09
News Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON.EDU
Professor Lehmann.

Ted Lehmann, assistant professor of Government, was awarded the Class of 1963 Excellence in Teaching Award at the monthly Faculty Meeting in the Fillius Events Barn this past Tuesday, December 1.

Many students nominated Professor Lehmann earlier this fall and then his nomination was examined by a committee of past award recipients. This was the second award given out this year and the recipients will be formally honored at the ceremony on Class and Charter Day.

Stewart Speaks with HALT

by Meredith Kennedy '09
News Writer

While preparing for her sabbatical next semester, President Joan Hinde Stewart took the time to address Hamilton's Alumni Leadership Training Program (HALT) on Monday, November 17. HALT is a select group of 50 seniors who learn through a series of luncheons how to become active Hamilton alumnus. At this luncheon, President Stewart spoke about her own college experience, her plans for her spring sabbatical and also gave advice to anxious seniors about what to expect after graduation.

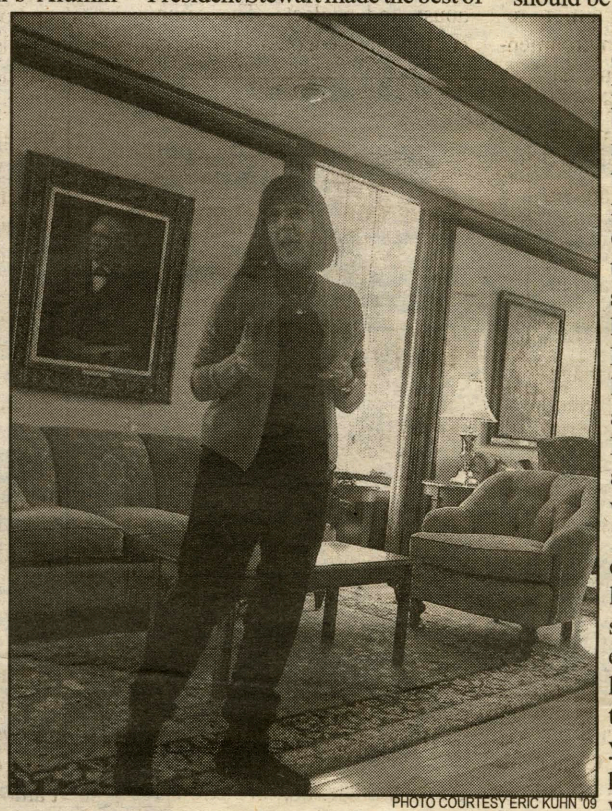
PHOTO COURTESY ERIC KUHN '09
President Stewart recounts her college days to members of HALT.

HALT Co-Chair Eric Kuhn '09 introduced the President praising her for "being currently recognized as a strong collegiate leader with amazing foresight to position this college to thrive financially and grow academically even in these financially challenging times." While Kuhn also recognized her accomplishments during the past five years, Stewart began the speech by telling HALT about her humble beginnings.

When President Stewart reflected on her senior year at St. Joseph's College for Women in New York, she realized how different things were for her back in 1964. While she enjoyed the liberal arts environment, Stewart recalled that, "Hamilton and St. Joseph's are very differently textured experiences."

On the hill, students can roll out of bed a few minutes before class, grab coffee at Commons and still make it to their seat on time. Stewart, on the other hand, lived at home in Brooklyn and had to commute an hour each way on the subway. Stewart also battled the bustling city traffic day in and day out.

Although she spent long mornings and nights on the train, President Stewart made the best of her commute by finishing all her homework on her way to and from school. Despite the hectic travel, President Stewart found her college environment to be very nurturing. After teaching for 31 years at universities, Stewart was later drawn to Hamilton in 2003 because she felt at home again. "The alumni and trustees had Buff and Blue in their blood," Stewart noted when she first visited the college. Stewart still admires the active alumni, because according to her, "Hamilton would not be where it is today without their commitment."

The President then took questions from the HALT members, which ranged from a heated debate on the difference in personalities of students who reside on the "dark side" or the "light side" to lowering the drinking age to 18. Stewart surprised students when she stated, "Not only should a robust discussion ensue around lowering the drinking age, but that marijuana should be decriminalized."

Stewart, a dedicated alumna to her alma mater, ended the lunch by encouraging the anxious group of seniors at the HALT luncheon to maintain ties with the college post-graduation. Though there is still another semester left before departing the Hill, HALT members are learning how to remain active members of the Hamilton community and make connections with graduates.

In addition to commitment to the College, Stewart hopes that students past and present apply the lessons learned at Hamilton to the real world. "I hope you take away compassion for humanity, a willingness to listen and understand differences, and the ability to care and understand," Stewart remarked. HALT members in attendance took this advice in stride as they begin to face the faltering job market in the coming months. "The economic turmoil that ensues may be frightening, but Hamilton has given its students the skills they need to succeed," Stewart continued.

Although Stewart will be on sabbatical next semester working on her research project on aging women in 18th century France, she hopes her words will resonate with students as they prepare for graduation. In an age of uncertainty, Stewart stressed the importance of being ready to take advantage of unexpected things. "Be flexible and don't worry if you're not doing what you expected at first."

Strategic Draft Approved

by Russ Doubleday '11
News Writer

The second draft of Hamilton College's Strategic Plan, which will shape the priorities of the College through 2014, was released to the public last week. On Monday, December 1, Dean of Faculty Joseph Urgo led an open meeting to discuss the direction of the Plan, and also took questions from faculty members, administration and staff.

The plan highlights four areas for the College to focus its attention on in the next five years. This list includes a rigorous academic curriculum, student services, need-blind financial aid, and increased student and faculty diversity.

The meeting primarily attracted faculty members from a variety of disciplines, as well as staff members such as librarians and tutors. Urgo, a member of the Executive Committee that wrote the plan, answered questions posed by the members of the community, and addressed concerns on subjects ranging from quality of advising to a focus on the Quantitative Literacy Center to media literacy, none of which were specifically addressed in the plan.

Urgo was also asked about construction focuses in the new plan, specifically if Christian A. Johnson Hall would be having any sort of renovation in the coming years. He responded, stating, "any construction during the next five years would be dedicated to arts buildings." He hinted that other buildings, such as the Burke Library, might be a higher priority to renovate, and the current economic crisis was discouraging the school from any other construction projects.

The meeting was sparsely attended by students. The previous open Strategic Plan meeting on Monday, September 29, also had a very poor student turnout.

The Strategic Plan has been a work in progress for almost a year. Initially, eight subcommittees, each focused on a specific aspect of the College, delivered preliminary recommendations in February, followed up with finalized reports in July. These were combined to create the first draft of the Plan in September, outlining numerous areas and possibilities for Hamilton to focus on in the future. This newest draft of the plan further combines the subcommittees' findings, condensing into four values: education with self-direction, a self-governing body, thoughtful dialogue and debate, and engagement with the world. These four values will be intertwined with the four focus areas of the College.

The Executive Committee will present the current Strategic Plan to the Board of Trustees on Friday, December 12.

RTF Spearheads Trash Project

by James Beslity '11
News Contributor

The College Recycling Task Force (RTF), a coalition of students and Physical Plant administrators with a goal of creating a more recycling-friendly and environmentally sustainable campus, has been busy this semester with projects that will become visible in the coming weeks and months. Once funds are secured, new lids for recycling containers will be purchased that will prevent waste and inappropriate materials from being deposited into the incorrect bins. Another waste management project coming to fruition is the installation of three "Big Belly" waste receptacles along Martin's Way. The large, rectangular garbage cans use integrated solar panels to power compression mechanisms that compact the garbage, which reduces the amount of landfill space needed for a portion of our campus waste. The cans will be installed in front of the Blood Fitness Center, Commons, and on the KJ side of the Martin's Way Bridge. "The plan is to install them before the ground freezes too solid to install the screws," said Terry Hawkridge, assistant director of grounds for the *College*.

PHOTO COURTESY BIGBELLYSOLAR.COM

A "Big Belly" waste receptacle.

Two fast-approaching campaigns have also been at the forefront of the RTF's agenda this semester, one of which is a book drive to benefit "Prevent Child Abuse NY," a statewide, nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect. The campus community is encouraged to deposit books at either a box located outside of the Mail Center in Beinecke or the counter at the College Bookstore starting on Thursday, December 12-20. The other campaign, the 1st Annual "Mini" Cram & Scram, has been designed with help from Cram & Scram coordinator Ashley Langer '09 to relieve students of their unused food and excess clothing before returning home for winter break. Anyone with packaged, non-perishable food or gently used clothing will be able to leave donations in boxes located in their residence halls starting December 12. Physical Plant employees will distribute food to local pantries just in time for the holidays, a time when they typically see shortfalls in supplies, and the clothing will be donated to the Salvation Army.

The introduction of a campus composting facility has been a long-term goal of the RTF, as well as the greater campus community, and progress in terms of the design and technology of the facility was made this semester. The facility will most likely be a new building located at the Physical Plant site, and will house a heated room for the loading of organic material into the composting system. The proposed system will be capable of turning over the material within a period of three days, a relatively short amount of time compared to traditional low-volume techniques. The overall project is still in the process of receiving necessary funding, but once funding is appropriated, commencement of the composting initiative could begin as early as next fall.

Stewart Targets Palin and Al Ham

*from **Stewart**, page 1*

recent national election to his own role as a trusted journalist.

"If anything, I'm an editorial cartoonist doing jokes on news I care about," Stewart said, responding to a question from the audience. According to Stewart, his status as trusted newsman says more about America's disappointment with the news media in general than about his show's quality.

As expected, much of Stewart's performance focused on politicians and their foibles, a theme he has been working with since he took over as the host of the Emmy-winning comedy program *The Daily Show* in 1999. The notion that Americans want political leaders "just like them" was also a subject of intense mockery, as Stewart questioned the wisdom of anti-elitism: "Doesn't 'elite' mean 'good?'"

Stewart also brought some humor a little closer to home. After much hooting and a little cheering followed the mention of nearby Colgate University, he remarked that the tension between the two small liberal arts schools was "the weirdest Hatfield-McCoy rivalry I've ever seen."

Even the Hamilton mascot, Al Ham, wasn't off-limits during Stewart's show. When the costumed student came running down the aisle toward the stage, Stewart was struck momentarily speechless. After being informed of the mascot's significance, Stewart joked, "In 20 years of doing comedy, I can say that this is by far the craziest f—ing thing I've ever seen. It's a hot pink pig. In a tricorner hat."

Not all of the performance was reserved for humor, however. Stewart acknowledged that Hamilton graduates were inheriting a worse world than their parents had. Stewart apologized, shrugging his shoulders, with an "Oops." After a medical emergency in the section reserved for senior citizens was quickly attended to by Hamilton Emergency Medical Technicians, Stewart encouraged students to emulate this "simple competence," which he believes so many politicians inside the Beltway lack.

The Field House was filled to capacity, with over 5000 students, faculty, staff and locals in attendance. Lucky members of the Hamilton community who won a special lottery were able to go backstage after the show. They enjoyed a brief interaction with the star, who quickly departed for New York City afterwards.

The Career Center
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Do you want to work in Washington, DC?

Apply through the

Capital Consortium
Event Date: Friday, February 6, 2009

The Capital Consortium is an event designed to help seniors from eight institutions obtain interviews with DC employers!

Interview with employers in one easy location - at the American Management Association Executive Conference Center in Washington, DC.

Spend time over break accessing the site, researching employers and applying for jobs!

Seniors can access the CapCon site as of Friday, December 5th!

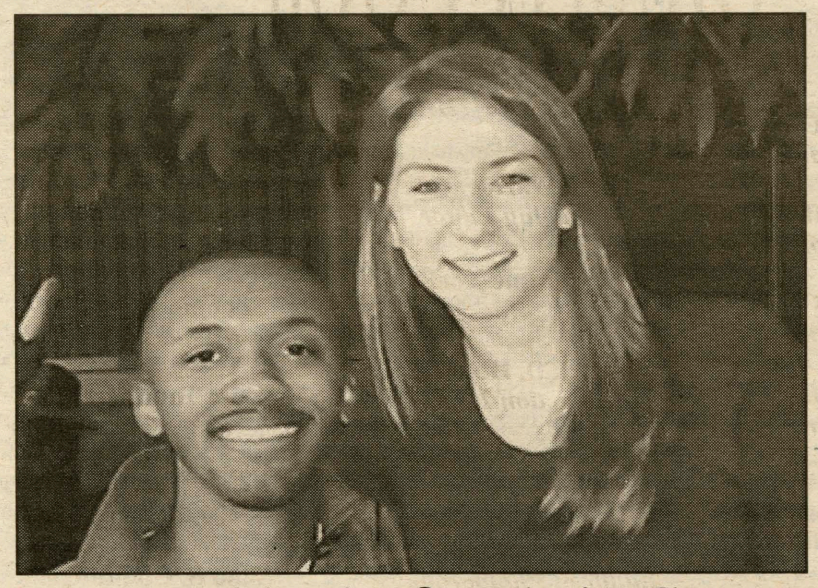
How To Participate:
You may apply to all job listings that interest you. Employers will review all application materials, and choose which candidates they will interview at the event on February 6th. Note: This is not a "job fair." All interviews will be preselected as a result of the application process, so be sure to apply if interested!

How to Apply:
You will need to create an account @ ***http://capcon.erecruiting.com, click Create an Account (Access token word is: capcon2008)***, review the job listings, and submit all materials requested by the employer. For **detailed** instructions, please see the career Center's website at ***www.hamilton.edu/careercenter***, click on "Find a Job", then click on "Capital Consortium".

Application deadline: Friday, January 5th

Questions?... call us at 4346!

Student Assembly Presidential Election Special



Amy Goldstein & Edwin Gaston

Amy Goldstein and Edwin Gaston intend to create a more connected campus community. We want to promote student involvement in key Student Assembly decisions by actively seeking opinions through all-campus polling. We hope to foster greater interaction among students, faculty, and administration. We wish to enhance the advising system so that students are fully aware of their academic opportunities. We would work to improve safety at crosswalks, lighting, and ground conditions during inclement weather. We support Green initiatives such as composting on campus and increased energy efficiency. By sponsoring activities such as an outdoor skating rink we hope to cultivate a stronger sense of community. We want to involve a variety of constituencies in collaborative efforts for the greater good like the Pink & White dance that raised money for breast cancer research. We have been hardworking Class Representatives since freshman year. Having served as either a Member or Co-Chair of a number of Student Assembly committees including Diversity & Accessibility, Social Traditions, Food, and Facilities, we have shown our dedication to Hamilton. Vote for us because we will make sure your concerns are heard and that Hamilton is the best it can be.

What is the role of the SA? Some have said the SA is incapable of advancing student positions because it has no power when compared to the alumni and the administration. What is your response?

Student Assembly's purpose is to advance the interests of the student body. We serve as the direct voice of student concerns to the administration and alumni. By soliciting input from students through all-campus polling and a SA suggestion box on myhamilton, we will be in a position to make sure that all opinions are considered.

What can the SA do to increase diversity awareness and acceptance on campus?

SA will actively promote the co-sponsorship of all-campus events. When seeking SA funding, organizations will be encouraged to consider inviting other groups to take part in their event. In doing so, a range of groups will interact and consequently promote diversity and acceptance.

Do you agree with the SA's current resolution concerning the CEC? If not, how do you differ?

We completely support the current CEC resolution. It addresses many of the concerns students have about the function and purpose of such a center. We agree with the resolution that there should not be a new building erected and that an existing space should be utilized. We will promote the coordination of cultural groups that will contribute to the CEC's programming.

What is your opinion on the College's green initiatives? Do you think the school is doing too much, not enough, the right amount, the right things, the wrong things, etc. How much of a priority is this issue?

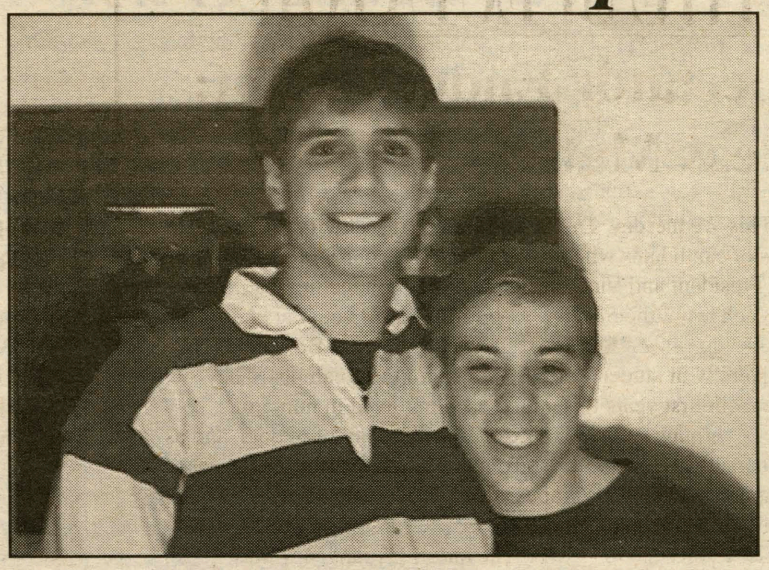
Our first concern is the safety of students, including making sure the campus is well lit and the grounds are adequately prepared for inclement weather. Secondary to this are green initiatives, which we feel Hamilton is currently working towards improving. However, there are still areas that need further improvement, such as composting and reducing energy usage.

What do you think of the way Campus Safety has handled recent dorm intrusions?

Campus Safety is currently doing its best to keep this campus safe. However, given its operating budget its abilities are limited. We will strongly advise the administration to increase Campus Safety's budget so that additional patrol officers can be hired, particularly at night. In doing this, we hope to increase Campus Safety's visibility and prevent further dorm intrusions.

What do you think of the Strategic Plan as it's currently drafted? What items do you support and not support? Is anything missing?

The Strategic Plan is incredibly well thought out and written. We support the initiatives to improve the advising system and the college's preparation for the changing demographic of incoming students. We feel as though advising needs some enhancement so that all students can be more aware of their opportunities. We applaud the plan's increased diversity initiatives and will advocate for need-blind admission.



Jake Lacy & Keith Willner

Fellow Students,

In the upcoming presidential election, vote for the experience and leadership of Jake Lacy and Keith Willner.If elected, we intend to better Hamilton through several important projects. We will work on bringing equivalency back to the Diner, and improving the atmosphere of the library—first and foremost, the rug has to go! As for long term goals, we want to promote collaboration between student organizations. Additionally, we plan to increase the campus's participation in Student Assembly meetings by inviting the President of the College and Dean of Students to join us.

We are qualified to lead Student Assembly because of our work ethic and experience. We have served as Class Representatives, Treasurers and Committee Chairs, and thus know the inner workings of the Assembly. We have played instrumental rolls in various successful projects, including getting the health center open on weekends and updating lighting and safety around campus. Along the way, we have developed strong relationships with the administrators who work closely with Student Assembly.

Hamilton, we've spent a year and a half working for you. We now ask you to give us the chance to lead the Assembly. Yours, Jake Lacy and Keith Willner

What is the role of the SA? Some have said the SA is incapable of advancing student positions because it has no power when compared to the alumni and the administration. What is your response?

Student Assembly's most important function is that it provides the Administration with a sense of the needs of the Students. Keith and I actually wish to further that relationship by personally inviting members of the administration to sit in on meetings. That same working relationship is the reason that the Assembly is consistently able to advance student's positions. Because the SA President develops such a strong rapport with the Administration, both sides gain a true respect for one another.

What can the SA do to increase diversity awareness and acceptance on campus?

Currently there is a gap between Student Assembly and the other organizations on campus that are devoted to spreading cultural awareness. Keith and I will bridge that gap by encouraging greater coordination. We strongly recommend that representatives from these concerned organizations attend as many of the Diversity and Accessibility and SA meetings as possible. SA can learn a lot from the students who are right on the front lines of an issue, and so the Assembly must go to great lengths to encourage their participation.

Do you agree with the SA's current resolution concerning the CEC? If not, how do you differ?

We endorse the current resolution. There is an undeniable need for a Cultural Education Center, which can easily be housed in an existing building. Such a space will become available when the ELS renovation is complete, and only minor improvements will be needed. In these tough economic times this is the most practical and pragmatic course of action for the school to take. In the interim period, Student Assembly can continue to serve as a sounding board for the voices of concerned organizations.

What is your opinion on the College's green initiatives? Do you think the school is doing too much, not enough, the right amount, the right things, the wrong things, etc. How much of a priority is this issue?

Although adopting greener policies ought to be an important goal for Hamilton, the current economic situation will hamper these efforts. However, the school should have a plan ready, as soon as possible, for the time when the economy will allow for more spending on green initiatives. In the meantime, smaller programs such as a composting system are an excellent way for the student body to play a role in conservation. Additionally, the school can continue to gradually increase the amount of clean energy it purchases.

What do you think of the way Campus Safety has handled recent dorm intrusions?

On the whole, Campus Safety does a good job of handling the day to day issues. However, with regard to the dorm room intrusions, Campus Safety dropped the ball in that they failed to follow up with the students involved. Campus Safety could easily have kept those students better informed about the progression of their cases. This might have been done without compromising those investigations, and would have given the students and the campus as a whole some peace of mind.

What do you think of the Strategic Plan as it's currently drafted? What items do you support and not support? Is anything missing?

Hamilton's Strategic Plan will move the College in the right direction. The insistence that Hamilton move toward need blind admissions, even if that goal is still some years away, is a significant milestone for the College and represents a newfound awareness of the changing demographics of college applicants. Furthermore, Hamilton's plan for the economic situation does not call for cut backs, but for readiness to take bold action when it becomes more appropriate to do so. Finally, one of Hamilton's greatest strengths is its open curriculum, and we are glad to see that the commitment to it is unwavering.

THE SPECTATOR

Spectator Endorsement: Ideas Matter

This Wednesday, *The Spectator*'s staff met with the two teams of candidates who are running to be your Student Assembly (SA) President and Vice President. After conducting interviews with each team, the *Spectator* Editorial Board voted to endorse Amy Goldstein and Edwin Gaston. The Editorial Board reflects the diversity of student interests on Hamilton's campus. They range from first years to seniors, each involved in numerous activities around campus, representing a variety of majors, and as members of *The Spectator* staff maintain a consistent awareness of important issues on campus.

Each team of candidates was asked the same questions and had equal time to answer. The questions ranged from whether or not they support the Cultural Education Center to the last song they downloaded onto their iPods (with greater weight obviously given toward the latter). Through this process, *The Spectator* received a unique look at what makes each candidate tick, their previous experiences at Hamilton and on the SA, and where they stand on a range of issues. After each team met with the editorial board, we had a long discussion and concluded the following:

Both pairs shared very similar views on many important campus issues. Amy and Jake each support the idea of a Cultural Education Center, but stated that the construction of a new building is not an immediate necessity. They agreed, however, that a space should be provided for students from historically marginalized groups. Both support green initiatives for the campus, believe that students should be encouraged to take oral-communication classes, and highlighted safety as one of their top priorities.

The Spectator feels that each team brings unique experience and understanding. They have each served on SA for about the same time (Amy was a Jan-admit and thus served a semester less), but when asked about their accomplishments, the pair of Amy and Edwin stood out. In the past semester, Amy has spearheaded the efforts behind the Pink and White party, which raised over $3000, advocated the formulation of the Technology Committee within SA and initiated the discussion for construction of an outdoor skating rink that will (contingent upon budget approval from SA) open this January. While Jake and Keith showed promise, Amy proved that not only could she come up with interesting ideas, but that she could also bring them to fruition.

Furthermore, both Amy and Edwin demonstrated an intimate knowledge of the college's current goals and how those might affect their representation of the student body. When asked about the Strategic Plan, for example, both Amy and Edwin were ready to discuss its details, what they liked, and what they would change. Although all SA members were required to read the Plan, Jake and Keith admitted they had not done so, and thus could not provide an equally in-depth answer to our question.

In addition to this understanding of the administration's goals, we are confident that Amy and Edwin will do what is necessary to understand the student's goals as well. When Edwin initially ran for SA Class Rep, he went door-to-door to speak to his classmates instead of putting up posters to collect votes. He spoke with hundreds of students (even upperclassmen who would not be voting for him) to hear their ideas.

Throughout the interview, Edwin expressed that his main concern was to first gain a real sense of the current sentiment and opinions of the student body, while Amy clearly demonstrated a track record for implementing changes based on those views and appeared very well prepared to continue to do so in the future in the role of president.

It is for these reasons, that *The Spectator* endorses Amy Goldstein and Edwin Gaston for Student Assembly President and Vice President.

- *The Spectator* Editorial Board

THE SPECTATOR

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Eleni Panagios, Sara Kayeum, Jessica Brown, Lauren Magaziner, Julia Litzky, Kate Moore, Hadley Keller, Dani Forshay, Jamie Villadolid, Jeffrey Seymour, Isabel Rittenberg, Ben Price

Editorial: International Students Stranded

International students have a very different experience than the rest of us during breaks, generally because they spend most of it on campus. They are stranded on the Hill with no transportation, no entertainment, and until recently, with no food.

As a small liberal arts community, we should strive to extend the network of support and advice for the international students. For the school, improved services for current international students will attract new international students, and thus work toward the school's ongoing goal of diversifying the community.

The class of 2012 alone represents 45 countries. 254 international students got accepted to Hamilton this year as the cream of the crop from their countries. As daring students, they left their homes to excel academically in the US. For current international students, breaks will be less of a burden.

Hamilton has a number of programs related to orientation, International Friendship Program (where international students are assigned a host family) or the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program, which supports the non-native English students who are fluent or functional bilinguals with on-going academic tutorial assistance.

The Dean of Students Office (DOS) works closely with the International Student Association (ISA) to identify and cater to the needs of the international students. Dean Drogus, Associate Dean of Students for Off-Campus Study & International Student Advisor, explained, "We're always evaluating what else we can do within our resources, and we welcome more input from students.

Last February, ISA presented a list of projects the College could do to help international students with some of the problems they face being so far from home. One request was some type of coverage for meals during breaks." Starting last spring break, the DOS agreed to cover the costs for the international students' meals over breaks. In past years, the students had to use their meal bonuses or pay cash when the dining halls were open during breaks. The new policy has made a great difference for the international community and *The Spectator* applauds this initiative!

We encourage individuals or groups to make an appointment to discuss their needs with Dean Drogus, Dean of Students for Diversity & Accessibility Allen Harrison, Barbara Britt-Hysell (ESOL) or with other relevant offices on campus! Several members of the Hamilton community suggested a type of Break-off-campus program, where local volunteers (students, faculty, staff, friends of college, alumni) would invite students to their homes during breaks. This way, international students will be given an opportunity to visit different areas of the country and have an American home for a break.

Another initiative is aimed at taking students on trips to popular sites near Hamilton over a break (i.e., Niagara Falls, Adirondacks, NYC). The trips could be partially subsidized by Hamilton and organized through a travel agency in order to get a cheaper price. Another proposal advocated for the hiring of a driver for a couple of hours every two days or so, depending on the length of the break, to provide transportation to the Marquee Cinema, off campus restaurants, the mall or Walmart. There are not (enough) drivers on campus during longer breaks, mainly because the international students who stay on breaks do not have a driver's license.

Transportation is a problem during breaks even if students leave the campus. Shuttles are provided to and from the Syracuse airport and the Utica train station but only in the beginning and the end of the break, when the majority of the students are coming back on campus. Most of the international students, if they leave the campus, return before the end of the break. It is unacceptable to be stranded at the Syracuse airport and have no other choice than pay $150 to take a cab back to campus!

One initiative suggested a Give-a-lift program, as a network of volunteers to provide transportation from or to airport or train station. A person can be hired to make appointments and bridge the two parties. This can be organized with the help of the Dean of Students Office, Student Assembly or other student organizations.

The international students deserve the support of the administration and of the campus community during breaks. We warmly welcome the improvements in the policies towards the services offered to the international students and the personal commitment and hard work of those working directly with the international students! However, as committed students, we wholeheartedly believe in an extended Hamilton effort to strengthen the network of support for our international community.

INSIGHTS & IDEAS

Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Nudity

by Jessie Brown '12
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

The US is, arguably, the most opinionated country in the world. In some countries, you cannot speak out against the government, no matter how unethical some of its policies may be; here, we print Bush-ism calendars and other such products that rip our president to shreds. True, our Constitution does not have a written guarantee to "freedom of expression." However, the Bill of Rights does ensure freedom of speech, press, and assembly. We can clearly voice our opinions with little fear of retribution. We are free to share our ideals with the public via nearly any means our little hearts desire.

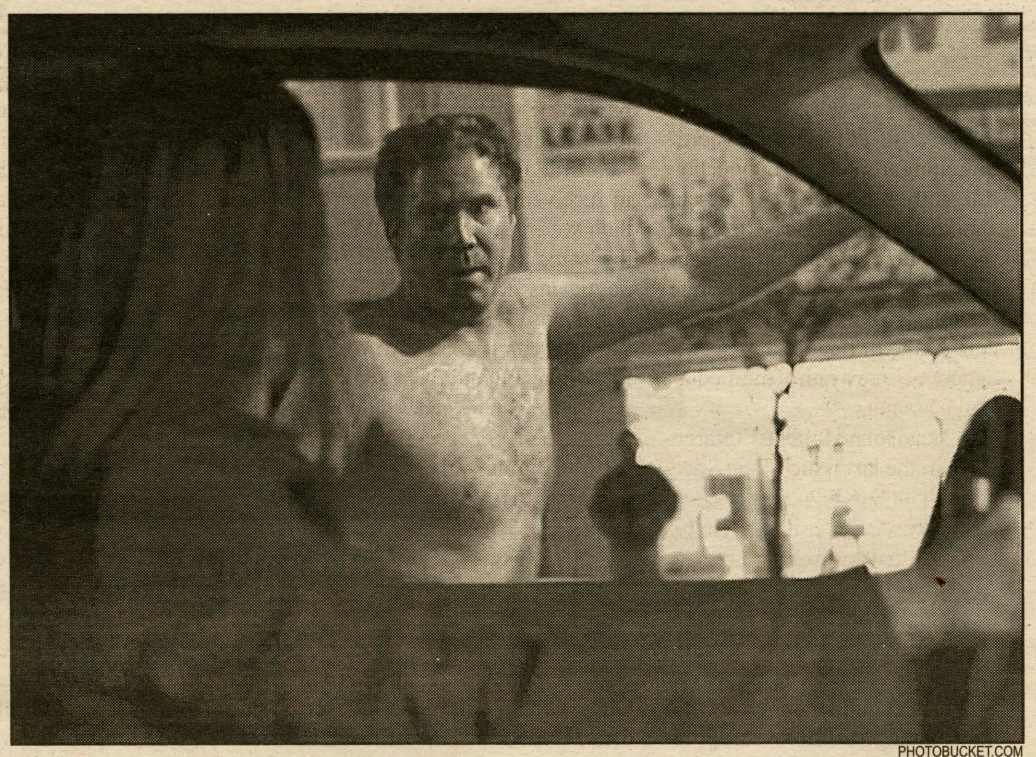
Nearly, however, is the operating word.

Despite these freedoms, Americans still face many restrictions. Of course, not all of them are bad – without certain laws, we would be free to act on every impulse regarding the people we dislike, which would not end well for humanity – but some of them are, frankly, silly. As long as your actions do not cause harm to an individual, legally, should it matter what you do? No, but the law does not see it that way. Thus, we have laws against indecent exposure, which is defined as "purposefully display[ing] one's genitals in public, causing others to be alarmed or offended."

However, this definition does not take into account that public displays of nudity are not all harmful acts. Streaking, a well-known pastime on the Hamilton campus, is just a form of expression. As a member of the streaking team stated, it is a way to show that Hamilton is not "just another NESCAC school."

"Nudity does no harm," said another member of the team. "What we do is not pornographic and we aren't harming anyone."

Campus Safety, apparently, disagrees. When the new director of campus safety, Francis Manfredo, came to the Hill, he brought with him a previously nonexistent tension. Streaking now earns punishments ranging from confiscated clothing to points, though no one has received points, according to the team. Even the clothing that has been confiscated was returned with an apology after the team had to stand in the cold for an hour.



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In the movie *Old School*, actor Will Ferrell's character encourages streaking.

Streaking on the Hill is more than just a quirk; it is historically rooted, dating back to before the Hamilton-Kirkland merge. Something that has been a part of the school's culture for so long should not be eradicated.

We are all adults on the Hill. By this point, we have seen a naked person. While it may be a bit surprising, it does not harm anyone. I'm not suggesting Hamilton turn into a nudist colony, but who is honestly mortally offended by the sight of a random bare ass?

Face Off: What Really Makes a Great Name Great?

Accomplishments

by Jerome Noel '09
LAYOUT MANAGER

First, I want to stress that this opinion piece is in no way an attack on the committee that choose the Sacerdote Great Names speaker. Each year, they take up an unenviable burden: to choose a person with a broad appeal to the Hamilton community to give an entertaining and enlightening speech. Such a task inherently invites criticism. At least one person is bound to be, ultimately, disappointed.

Respectfully, I must disagree with the choice of Jon Stewart. If the sole criteria for a speaker was availability on the lecture circuit, then "Great Names" is a misnomer. The series should be called the "Sacerdote Speakers Who Are Available Series." As history has shown, the speaker should be someone that does or did something great, a standard Jon Stewart simply does not fit. Past speakers have included such illustrious "somethings" as two presidents, a vice president, a mayor, a prime minister, a journalist, an archbishop and a holocaust survivor. The inaugural speaker, Colin Powell, was the chairman of the Joint Chiefs under Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton. These men and women illustrate precisely what a great name should be.

The series has also included entertainers, such as legendary blues guitarist B.B. King, innovative comedian and author Bill Cosby, and Grammy-winning soul singer Aretha Franklin. Tom Brokaw drew from his years of experience as a journalist and television show host and producer, and his research when writing his bestseller *The Greatest Generation*. As a comedian first and foremost, a role Stewart himself admitted during his speech, Stewart simply does not match his predecessors, even his fellow entertainers like Cosby or King.

Obviously, the list of possible and potential speakers is finite. Hamilton can only invite speakers who are currently touring on the lecture circuit. Hamilton cannot simply invite Prime Minister Putin, Bono, or the Pope to come to the fieldhouse and give a speech. The choice is limited. Suggestions, even from the choosing committee, are not always guaranteed potential speakers. The committee has to weave through a process that involves availability, scheduling, popularity and pricing. And the broad based appeal, which Stewart indeed brought to the Hill, is also a necessity. The support for Jon Stewart was overwhelming due to his popular television show. His fake-newscast The Daily Show has been a hit since he took over. There is no getting around it: his show is absolutely hilarious. And he has met and interviewed some amazing people, from Tom Cruise to Barack Obama.

But is Jon Stewart, hilarious as he is, truly a Great Name? Has he actually done anything? Popular comedian, yes. Emmy-winning writing, yes. But look at the other potential candidates: Tony Blair was Prime Minister for a decade under the last remaining Western monarchy. Like him or not, Karl Rove almost single-handedly got President George W. Bush elected. Kofi Annan was Secretary General of the UN. Michael Jordan won the NBA national championships six times, and was named MVP five times. And J.K. Rowling wrote one of the most beloved series in modern literature. During all of this, the only thing Jon Stewart did was write jokes.

PERSISTENTILLUSION.FILES.WORDPRESS.COM

Appeal

by Lauren Moon '10
FEATURES EDITOR

The vast majority of the Hamilton community celebrated the selection of Jon Stewart as Sacerdote Great Names Speaker. Despite Stewart's popularity, opposition to any major decision is to be expected. However, I find such criticism to be misplaced.

Stewart has been a front-runner for the Great Names series for the past three years. Unfortunately, budget and schedule constraints have led the Great Names committee to pursue other options. At the beginning of the summer of 2008, the committee sent out a campus wide survey to gauge the interests of the Hamilton community. The Office of Student Activities received a staggering 1180 responses in 12 days. The amount of feedback alone is indicative of the popularity of the series itself. In the survey, the Hamilton community was given a choice of 20 famous names from varied professions including politicians, actors, artists, athletes, activists, musicians, journalists, authors, and no less than three comedians. Survey takers were asked to rank each candidate on a scale of one to seven, with one being little interest and seven being strong interest. With over 75% of survey takers ranking Stewart with a five or above, the comedian and Daily Show host blew every other candidate out of the water.

After these results came in, the Office of Student Activities felt that a third and final attempt to book Stewart would be necessary. Student Activities jumped through monetary and scheduling hoops to ensure this year's speaker was both affordable and available. It is important to note that there were two dates Stewart's agent offered Hamilton. One of the dates was over Fall Break, and the other was November 14, the date of the performance. There were other scheduled events going on at Hamilton that weekend; however, they were not on the master calendar at the time that Jon Stewart was booked. Additionally, it would have been difficult to justify losing the opportunity for a Great Names Speaker three years in the making with over three quarters of the Hamilton community desiring his attendance.

Another concern among dissenters is the charge that Stewart is not worthy of the title "Great Name." Many people seem to have adopted their own personal mission statement concerning the proper use of the generous Sacerdote fund. The fund, however, makes no mention of any specific educational value of the speaker, nor does it specify any career fields necessary to qualify the person as a Great Name. The language of the mission statement indicates that any popular touring famous figures are appropriate choices for the series.

The choice of a comedian for the Great Names series is not unprecedented. Stewart shares this spotlight with the award-winning Bill Cosby. While these comedians' accomplishments may pale in comparison to some of the great political and journalistic thinkers of the past, I believe it is Hamilton's duty to not only diversify the hosts but, more importantly, appeal to the majority of Hamilton voices. The turnout at last month's performance was the largest in history, and it would be hard to find an attendee who thought the performance was sub par. For those who are worried that the future of the intellectual integrity of the series is now compromised, I wouldn't worry. The rumor mill has it that certain *very* influential world leaders (that shall remain anonymous) are available for speaking engagements within the next year.

Media's Treatment of Palin Not Unfair

A Response to "Palin's Nomination Equally Historic"

by Allison Eck '12
Insights & Ideas Writer

The media is ruthless. There's no getting around it. No matter how diligently we argue that a certain candidate was unfairly attacked, there is no denying that any candidate, whether black or white, liberal or conservative (especially conservative), male or female, will experience the wrath of the media's brutal assault.

I read John Molfetas' '09 argument in the last issue of the Spectator about Sarah Palin and I have several issues with it. The first is his claim that the media was overly harsh when ridiculing her policies and behavior. Yes – I'll admit that the media was unnecessarily critical when it scrutinized almost every aspect of her appearance. A man running for office would probably not be subject to this kind of superficial nit-picking. However, we need to keep in mind that the media's ideological attacks were not out of the ordinary, and often portrayed her in a kind of satirical manner which helped citizens view her in a different light.

The media also acted this way towards her because of conditions the McCain campaign imposed on her. For weeks, they bottled her up, fearful that she would say or do something wrong. She was excluded from press conferences and interviews for quite a while, and the McCain campaign claimed they did this to keep her in line before briefing her completely about these situations. In part, Palin's lack of experience caused the media's criticism, so she is not entirely at fault. On the other hand, her past indicates that she may not be as well-versed in politics as she should be, and therefore the media may be justified in its observations.

In addition, if we say that Palin received unwelcome remarks, then we must also accuse her of the same thing. Isn't that what politicians do? They attack their opponents. What difference does it make who it comes from? The fact of the matter is that while the media may have made Palin look incompetent, Biden and Obama did the same thing, only perhaps in a way that was slightly more subtle but no less derogatory. Palin also attacked the Democrats, and what was worse about her commentary was that some of the things she said were outright wrong. For example, "Palin also told those gathered that Obama doesn't like American soldiers," reported Dana Milbank in the New York Times. She backed up her claim using quotes that were out of context. Moreover, a statement like this does not command respect because it is so obviously futile and inconsequential.

This is the most important distinction that Molfetas failed to make between Geraldine Ferraro's historic nomination and Palin's significantly less historic one. Geraldine Ferraro commanded respect. I don't care whether you are male or female: a candidate needs to have a certain aura about him or her, and if this is missing, the media will be on the prowl 24/7.

Molfetas wrote that "for elites, social mobility is disturbing." It may be true that elites are afraid of falling to a lower socio-economic status, but Palin's ordinary background and ascendance to political power are certainly not "threats" to the higher class. The fact that Sarah Palin went to a public school and grew up in a working class family is not why the media feels the need to attack her – her folksiness and casual demeanor, unfortunately, come across as unprofessional, and this is why we might feel wary about her.

Should we dismiss our uncertainties? It's like what Jon Stewart said when he visited campus – we should want the leaders of our country to be elitist. We should want them to be so many times smarter than we are that it's embarrassing. I cannot understand why Molfetas would say that the elected officials do not "need to know whether Africa is a country or a continent." Shouldn't we desire for our country a well-informed leader with a sense of the world so we can make progress? Not knowing fifth-grade geography is a serious problem.

In accordance with this point, I'll point out something else Molfetas wrote: "Palin, like Obama, understood what it meant to be growing up in an ordinary family making ends meet." If this is so, then why didn't the media crusade against Obama for his background? Palin's nomination and subsequent exposure to the media's microscope was not due to a fear of social mobility but rather, other traits which could apply to any candidate given the cunning methods of the media. Palin's nomination may have been controversial, but it was not historic, simply because she lacked the experience and knowledge required for a serious vice-presidential candidate.

Ask Mister Morals

Taking a look at accidental disposals and the use of pick up artist tactics.

Unbeknownst to me, my roommate stashes his drug paraphernalia at the bottom of a bag of old pretzels. Recently, I was alone in my room and wanted a snack. I started eating the pretzels, and, finding them to be stale and inedible, threw them (along with the stashed paraphernalia) into the trash. By the time my roommate confronted me, the bag was long gone. My roommate feels I should recompense him for accidentally discarding the bag; he estimates the total value of the lost items to be $100. How much money am I ethically obligated to give him, if any?

You should have been more considerate of your roommate's snacks, stale or not. A mutual respect for each other's property is crucial to a successful living arrangement between roommates. While in your mind the pretzels were unfit to eat, you need to remember that they are not your pretzels and that you should consult your roommate before disposing of them.

That being said, you threw away his drug paraphernalia by accident, not on purpose. This is why, in criminal law, the penalty for manslaughter is lighter than the penalty for murder. Your ignorance of the bag's contents mitigates your actions.

Nonetheless, you should compensate your roommate in full. Although you did not intentionally throw away his paraphernalia, it was still inconsiderate to throw away the pretzels without asking your roommate. Had you asked, this whole situation could have been avoided. Additionally, you shouldn't let this incident sour relations between you two for the rest of the year. One hundred dollars, while no paltry sum, is a small price to pay for avoiding tension between you and your roommate. The next time you're thinking about throwing away your roommate's food, check the package carefully to make sure you aren't throwing away anything else. Treat your roommate's snacks like Cracker Jacks (but with drugs instead of a sweet prize), and you'll avoid similar mishaps in the future.

I recently read a book on PUA's (pick up artists). These artists have devised strategies for attracting women. Do you think it would be a good idea to test out my newfound knowledge on unsuspecting females this weekend?

While it is not unethical to apply lessons you learn from a book to real life (imagine what college would be like if that were true) you should not use knowledge to achieve immoral ends. While I can't be sure what you intend to do towards those "unsuspecting" females who are left swooning over your witty banter and charm, I suspect it is not to read the collected works of Sue Monk Kidd over hot chocolate from Opus.

I'm also worried by your perception of women. Contrary to what your book and every episode of Entourage may have taught you, women are not objects to be picked up and, ahem, utilized to satisfy the carnal desires of men. I would advise you to reevaluate your attitude before heading out to ELS this weekend.

Mister Morals is a column devoted to helping resolve the ethical dilemmas of Hamilton students.

Do you have a dilemma for Mister Morals?

E-mail questions to Adam Vorchheimer at avorchhe@hamilton.edu.

All submissions will remain strictly confidential.

Thumbs up

The magical three week period where you don't give a $h*t about school because you just got off break and you don't give a $h*t about school because you're about to go on break.

Hamilton Basketball beats Utica College 71-68. It's just like in real life except instead of beating you in education, socioeconomic status, and general quality of life, we beat you in sports.

Thanksgiving: Better than Commons Thanksgiving because I didn't shart my pants while falling asleep on the couch watching football.

Toothpicks at Commons: Make sure to tell the person at the door it's because you like a little wood in your mouth after dinner.

Thumbs down

Milbank wins Dorm Energy Challenge: Looks like the crunchers in Babbit are still waiting for Obama's change to come through.

Can someone please put a f*#king bullet in Old Yeller a.k.a. the Commons soda fountain. We all love her, but it's getting sad watching her dribble foamy water out of the Pepsi dispenser.

Conversations with my deaf friends since Jon Stewart's sign language lesson consisting of "f*#k," "jerk off," and "alligator."

Area Directors accompanying on-call RAs on their rounds through the dorms. Then again, maybe *they'll* drink with us too.

Who Cares?

Campus Safety: As long as I'm illegally parked, I know my car will be safe.

Internet game Bloons: Either make the game easier or wipe that $h*t-eating grin off the monkey's face.

Facebook statuses: Thanks for keeping me up to date on how full of yourself you are at any given time of day.

Ice Cream Sundae Bar: Go for it ladies. You deserve it after eight strenuous minutes on the arc swing.

Tastes of Utica: If there were ever a phrase to immediately induce dry heaving...

by Steve Allinger '09, Jason Brown '09, Anthony DelConte '10 & Matt Fellows '09

Letters to the Editor and the Campus

To the Editor:

Re "SA: No Internet Laundry Service, Yes to Security" (Editorial, Nov 14):

As a member of the Student Assembly, I appreciate when *The Spectator* covers Student Assembly issues. I find your coverage reaffirming when we agree (your publication – or in some cases, your writer – and I), and informative when we do not. I found last week's Editorial informative.

In certain regards, I agree with the Editorial:

The Bundy crosswalk is poorly lit. Its poor lighting and its position on the edge of the hill (where it is hard for pedestrians to see oncoming traffic, and for oncoming traffic to see pedestrians) make it considerably more dangerous than the Martin's Way crosswalk. The Bundy crosswalk's lighting and signage are both better than they used to be, but perhaps there's still room for improvement.

The Martin's Way Bridge is preposterously slippery when it rains or snows. I can't count the number of times I've nearly broken my neck on that bridge. I've called Campus Safety on multiple occasions to ask if someone could salt or sand the bridge. And, to their credit, after I called, someone has always either salted or sanded the bridge in a timely manner. The College should salt or sand the bridge more frequently when it snows, and should put traction strips down on the bridge's slippery metal joints.

The parking lot thefts are disconcerting. In my almost four years at Hamilton, I've never seen such a troubling string of (apparently) connected crimes. The property damage and theft of property associated with these parking lot incidents is getting out of hand.

However, when it comes to funding these projects, I disagree with the Editorial. I do not believe the Student Assembly should pay to light the crosswalk, or fix the bridge, or cover similar capital improvements. Let's remember what the Student Assembly's budget is for: we fund campus events, the Movie Channel and ESPN, and clubs and other student organizations. We generally do not fund capital improvements on campus, nor should we. I'm not a fan of the slippery slope argument, but suffice it to say that if the Student Assembly paid to fix a bridge, we'd set a dangerous precedent and leave ourselves with less money to fund important campus events and organizations.

The Student Assembly absolutely should work with the College to make the Bundy crosswalk, the Martin's Way Bridge, and our parking lots safer. However, the Student Assembly shouldn't foot the bill using money it's supposed to spend on student organizations and student events. The appropriate campus offices need to pay for such capital improvements.

-Stuart Lombardi '09

Dear Editor,

I am writing in support of the courageous letter written by Chelsea Mann in the November 14 issue of *The Spectator* regarding the performance by The Buffers during Family Weekend. As an alumna of Kirkland and mother of a recent Hamilton graduate and a current student, I have listened to The Buffers on many occasions over the past 30 years.

They have always been lewd and sophomoric, and that has been part of their charm; however over the past five years I have noticed with dismay that their attempts at humor have been increasingly meanspirited and ugly. This year was the worst by far. Jokes about date raping women and giving unsuspecting freshman women herpes are deeply offensive and demonstrate an appalling lack of awareness and intelligence. I was stunned to witness such ignorance on the Hamilton campus.

It is clear to me that if any group of students think that date rape and passing around STDs is laughable, Hamilton has done a poor job of educating its student body about violence against women. I am sending a contribution to the Womyn's Center since, apparently, the administration is inadequately supporting their work to raise awareness about women's issues.

The disparaging "jokes" The Buffers make about the other a cappella groups on campus only make The Buffers appear to be desperately propping up their sagging reputation, since The Hamiltones, Tumbling After, Special K, and now Duely Noted have stepped up the quality of their performances year after year, while The Buffers' performances have deteriorated. The Buffers would be better served by putting more effort into their singing, rather than wildly misguided attempts at humor.

I congratulate the other a cappella groups for a wonderful performance this year. I only wish I had not left the concert with the sour notes of The Buffers reprehensible embrace of misogyny ringing in my ears. The good news is that next time I will be able to stay for the enjoyable part of the concert, and leave before the Buffers can spoil it. For that reason alone, I hope that the tradition of having the Buffers perform last continues.

-Libby Robbins, K'77

To the Editor:

The Friday before last [October 31, 2008) I set out from CJ after finishing my last problem set for the week. Even though my already brief period of repose would be abbreviated the next day by Family Weekend, I was enjoying the calm instant of satisfaction that only a Friday delivers. But at that, worst of instances, the buzz of a gnat ended my daydream; and astoundingly, it was the kind of gnat that is actually a three-ton helicopter flying over Steuben Field. My first thought was that the athletic director had come up with an absurdly inefficient plan to dry off the football field with the draft from some thousand-dollar-per-hour rented helicopter. Can you imagine if that really happened? Oh. Well this is awkward.

Before I go on, I must say that as a varsity athlete myself, and a fan of the football team, my intent is not to second guess the athletic director's decision. After all, it makes perfect sense, unless you're from planet Earth or something. But as I stood for a minute to watch the helicopter hover over the field, I couldn't help but to mull over a few other trivial things that, well, annoy the shit out of me.

It's probably only because I got a parking ticket, but I figured I should probably complain about Campus Safety. So let me say this: the parking system would actually be very reasonable and effective, if those who manage it were accessible and rational. Unfortunately, Campus Safety refuses to take a cooperative approach to assigned parking spaces and ticketing. One student, who shall remain anonymous, has seen the worst of human nature in the form of the Campus Safety bureaucracy. In September, this student contacted the Supervisor about switching his parking spot from New Lot to "anywhere within a short bus ride." Thus, Campus Safety was presented with two options: approve or deny the student's request. But always on their toes, the team over at Camp Po was able to avoid both options by simply responding "come back next week," for four consecutive weeks, sending a clear message that a student's convenience was not a consideration for them. Hats off to you, officers.

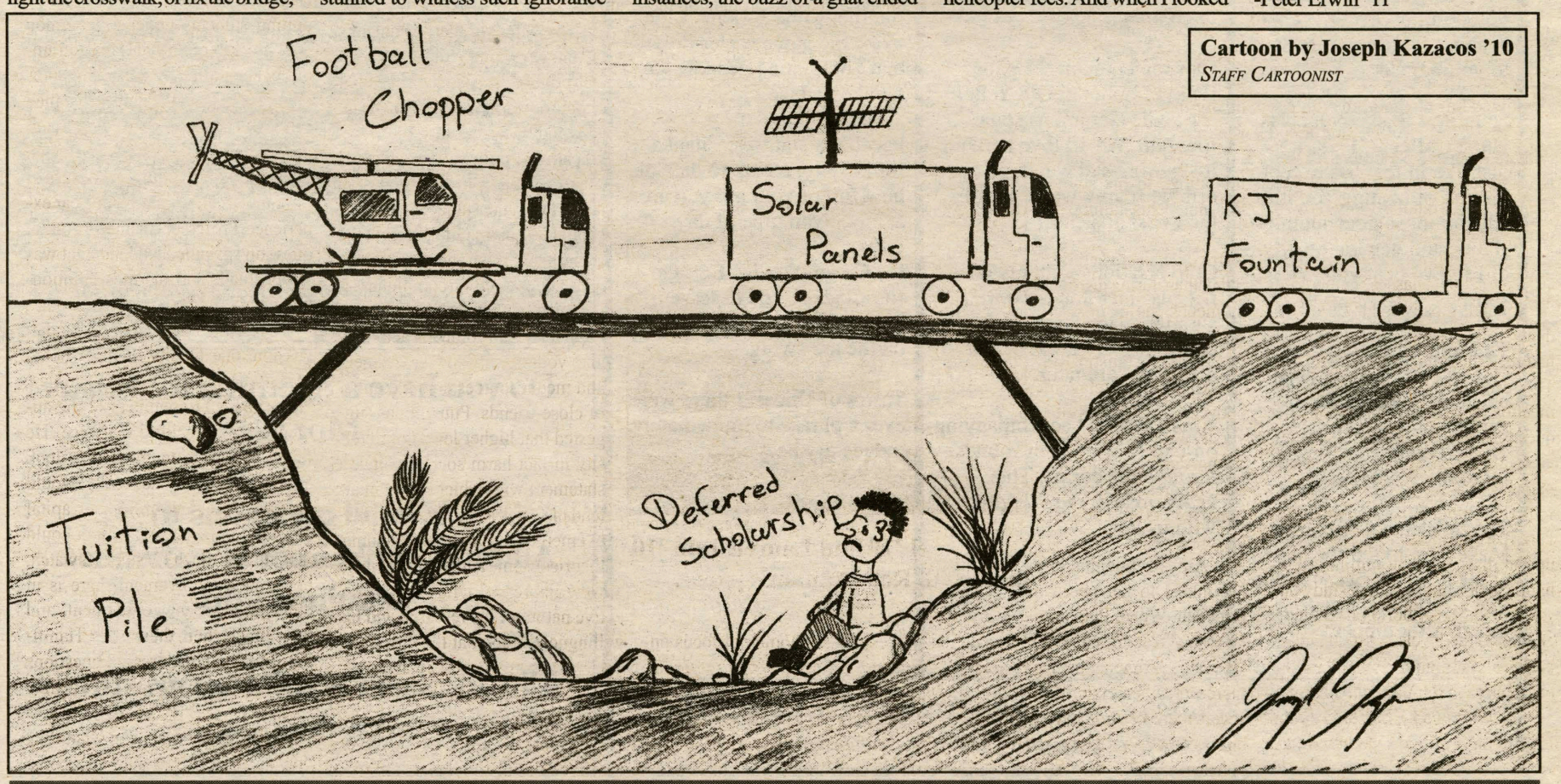
But apparently parking ticket revenues haven't quite covered the helicopter fees. And when I looked at the $48,000 tuition bill I knew there was something missing. General tuition, room and board, meal plan… oh, photocopying. They must have forgotten to put copying on the bill. That must be why the college is charging extra to make a Xerox in the Library. Alright, forget it, I'm actually glad we pay to use the photocopier, because otherwise we wouldn't be paying enough to come here.

I also applaud the administration for the bold new loop extension that has been added to the Dark Side road. At first, the 100-yard long, paved semi-circle seemed useless, but then I realized it included four parking spaces. So I'm glad to say that a multi-thousand dollar project benefits as many as four people every day. Admittedly, it could really accommodate ten robust staff members, if they all rode motor scooters.

I feel that I should mention one more instance in which the school's policies have contradicted normal human behavior. A friend of mine was asked to leave the fitness center recently because he failed to bring an additional pair of sneakers to exercise in. Of course I recognize the importance and practicality of the "clean shoes" rule, but how can it not be conditional to the weather outside? When a student walks inside from a sixty degree day with completely dry sneakers, I would hope that circumstance might lessen the stringency of the rule. This again shows that some Hamilton rules, and representatives, are continually at odds with rational, cooperative thinking. The student, a sophomore and dedicated athlete, has called that event an "abomination."

I strongly believe that the good far outweighs the bad at Hamilton. But I do hope that a few small changes might promote a more rational and comfortable environment; and also that I don't trip over a cat every time I walk on Martin's Way.

-Peter Erwin '11



Cartoon by Joseph Kazacos '10
Staff Cartoonist

Spectator Between the Sheets

By Annabelle Moore '12
Features Writer

With the Holidays fast approaching, it's time to write up a wish list. Before you waste your ink asking for Blackberry Bolds and Northface Fleeces, let me take some time to expand your thinking. Christmas day is still reindeer sweater time, but Christmas Eve is as good an occasion as any for a sexy Santa costume for that special someone. Hannukah gives you eight nights to break in any sex toys you may receive, and nothing is a better stocking stuffer than lube. Here is a Spectator Between The Sheets Holiday Wish List, which can be ripped out and given to a friend, lover, sales clerk or creepy aunt. All of these toys can be found on Babeland.com. Trust me when I say that these will lead to a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CONDOMSENSEUSA.COM

For Her

Rabbit Habit: An oldie, but a goodie. If you're willing to drop some serious gelt ($90) it will more than pay for itself in orgasms with serious internal and external stimulation.

OhMiBod: Love musicians but sick of the scruff? This vibrator plugs into your iPod and vibrates to the beat. Use a slow song for foreplay, and then wrap it up with a nice fast bass line.

Pocket Rocket: Cheap, small and waterproof. Need I say more?

Hitachi Magic Wand: This "back massager" isn't fooling anyone, except maybe your father. This is for clitoral stimulation only, but it's known as the Cadillac of Vibrators

Orchid G: Made specifically for G-spot girls, this slim, angled vibrator provides great clitoral stimulation as well.

For Him

Maven Sleeve: Bet you didn't know that there were sex toys for men! Ribbed on the inside for stimulation, the Maven Sleeve looks like a very thick, soft condom. Add a drop of lube to the inside and save your hand some chaffing.

Fleshlight: This looks like a flashlight with a vagina on the end of it. A little creepy to me, but I won't yuck your yum. It's supposed to feel the most like the real thing and trust me when I say it looks like one. A metal cap makes it look like a large flashlight when not in use, so it won't completely freak your roommate out. There's also a Fleshlight mouth, if you're so inclined.

Hugger Vibe: This cap lies on the head of the penis, fluttering over it lightly for a nice teasing sensation. It's also only $20, one of the cheapest sex toys I've seen.

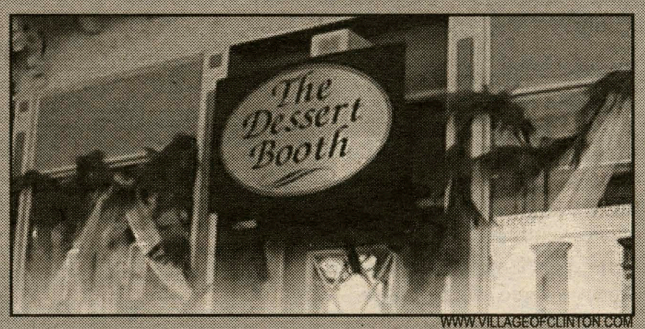
For Them

Position of the Day Playbook: This modern Kama-Sutra is a great gift, with a different sexual position for each day of the year. It even tells how many calories each position burns and how difficult it is!

Vibrating Cock Ring: These hands-free vibrators provide clitoral stimulation to a woman during heterosexual intercourse while prolonging the guy's erection.

Remote Butterfly: This rubber butterfly is worn like a thong and is stimulated by a remote control. It can work from up to 20 yards away and is relatively quiet, providing you with a new way make your sociology lectures more bearable. Give your partner the remote, sit back and enjoy that Power Point.

Worth Getting Off the Hill For



WWW.VILLAGEOFCLINTON.COM

By Lily Gillespie '12
Features Writer

The Dessert Booth, in my opinion, can best be likened to a quaint café in the French countryside, although it is conveniently located in downtown Clinton. This may be a bit of an exaggeration, but it certainly felt that way on the Sunday morning of Family Weekend, when I had the opportunity to enjoy the rarely served, but seemingly popular, sit-down breakfast at the Dessert Booth. All of the furnishings and decorations contribute to the French Provencal charm of this darling establishment. Despite the fact that it was about noon when we arrived, the staff was gracious and showed us to a table. Although I am not a quiche fan myself, I heard rave reviews from my mother. I particularly enjoyed the lemon and ginger scone, made with actual fresh ginger, to enhance its taste. It is certainly worth exploring next fall when parents flood the Hill and are kind enough to offer a meal off campus.

The Dessert Booth serves lunch throughout the regular week, with selections ranging from sandwiches to quiches. There is even a tapas dinner on Thursday nights for those looking to try something a little different. However, the crowning achievement of the Dessert Booth has to be the variety of desserts, which taste just as good, if not better, than they look. It was truly a dream to try the Dream Cake one cold afternoon this past week. For those who are unfamiliar with the flourless cake, you have not lived, because it is the richest, densest, most intense dessert you will ever taste, and this is no exaggeration. Even a small slice was unmanageable for one person, so bring friends, because I guarantee you will have to share. However, not everyone appreciates chocolate, which is why the Dessert Booth also offers perfect, individual key lime tarts, a strawberry cake, biscotti, scones, cookies, raspberry crumb bars, and more. If you are feeling generous for a birthday or special occasion, they also make regular-sized desserts that include cakes and pies.

As the holiday season draws near, I asked owner, Karen Booth, if there was anything we should keep our eyes open for and she explained that her choice of desserts is "off the top of my head…and it varies from year to year." I can imagine that the Dessert Booth will be sure to live up to the expectations of anyone who has already tried their treats, as I know they only climb in my estimation each time I visit. So, I highly suggest that you take the trip off the Hill to warm your heart with the yummies at the Dessert Booth.

Town Hall Discussion on Diversity: "E Pluribus Unum ... or not"

By Nora Grenfell '12
Features Writer

How do you get a Sociology professor, a Statistics student, and a Women's Studies major to stay in a room together for one hour? Hamilton solved this conundrum with last Tuesday's town hall discussion of Rod Putnam's paper "E Pluribus Unum: Diversity and Community in the 21st Century." An irregularly large crowd, mostly made up of students from various disciplines that had read the article for their classes, gathered in the Chapel, mostly made up of students from various disciplines that had read the article for their classes. The result of this cross-disciplinary meeting was a debate that left greater questions about Hamilton's community and the American social dynamic unanswered.

Dan Rudel '10, a student in Advanced Topics in Sociology, opened up the discussion by outlining Putnam's major findings. In a study that surveyed 71 neighborhoods, Putnam examined the levels of "trust" members of communities had in their neighbors in relation to the diversity of the community. His study found that in more diverse communities, members are less trusting of individuals of every race (including their own).

Following the introduction was an analysis of Putman's research methods. While she agreed that the empirical research supported the theory that increased diversity results in less trust, Lauren Tom '10 found limitations to his study. She noted his failure to look at the attitudes towards diversity over time, rather than during just one moment in the history of a community. She also suggested that, statistically speaking; the correlation between distrust and diversity was not altogether strong. Putnam's data, she said, ignores many additional factors that contribute to distrust.

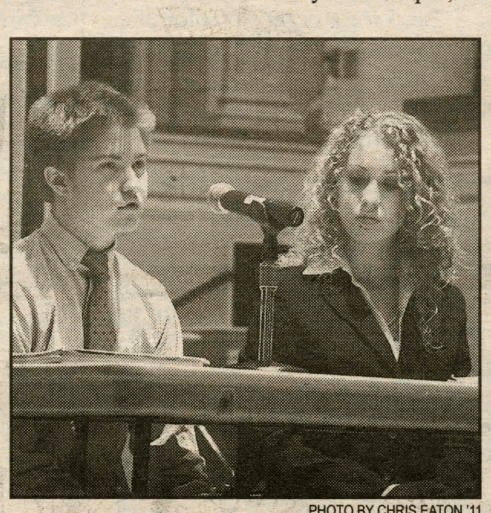


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

Dan Rudel '10 and Lauren Tom '10 discussed Rod Putnam's paper.

Amy Tannenbaum '10 added to her peer's criticism. Where Putnam conflates "race and ethnicity" to mean "diversity," Tannenbaum argued that there are other important facets of social identity and diversity he ignores, such as religion, gender, and physical ability. She also criticized Putnam's final goal of assimilation of different ethnic groups into one community. She also brought up the relevance of the research to Hamilton as its dynamic shifts. While Hamilton advocates for diversity on its campus, she feels that it should not focus on diversity purely for its images' sake, but rather, embrace and understand differences. In response to the idea that assimilation would solve the problems of mistrust, Tannenbaum said, "the history of difference will still exist even if we become more alike."

Some of the turbulence Putnam's research created on the American social-political scene was echoed at Hamilton's town hall discussion. The audience was initially overwhelmingly critical of Putnam's research. The audience's discussion started with the subject of "social capital." Social capital refers to the social networking and reciprocities involved in a certain community. It is typically measured in terms of involvement in volunteer activities and voting, trust in government and media sources, and a number of close friends. Putnam has suggested that higher levels of diversity in fact harm social capital, a statement with which many in attendance took issue. Later on, voices emerged in support of Putnam's theories. Some audience members were impressed with the exhaustive nature of his research and his willingness to look at the "messier" side of social diversity.

Mediator of the discussion, Professor of Sociology Dan Chambliss, asked to what extent Putnam's theory is proven or disproven at Hamilton. The audience expressed greatly differing ideas, from the thought that Hamilton increases social capital by uniting students under a "common goal," to the notion that Hamilton amplifies separation by presenting individuals with specific niches that they can easily occupy. Some students felt that Putnam's research was irrelevant in the context of Hamilton because of its nature as an isolated four-year experience. Professor Chambliss' initial question sustained a debate that was intellectually and, at times, emotionally charged, for over half an hour.

Near the conclusion of the discussion, one faculty member noted that he had heard many passionate "assertions" by members of the audience but very little evidence. He felt it would be interesting to look at the empirical evidence that would indicate the extent of Social Capital at Hamilton. Such indicators could include how much TV students watch, how much involvement there is in clubs and student government, and how much theft there is at Hamilton. Finally, he addressed questions left looming in the wake of Putnam's research: asking "is it a failing of the college or the students that they do not or don't want to overcome mistrust?"

Study Break: Colombian Style

By Nicholas Kernan '10
Features Writer

The popular image of Latin American music and dance has become synonymous with sensuality. Salsa and tango, for example, are viewed as rhythms in which dancers rub up against each other as some unintelligible singer keeps pace to a maraca. However, this image is a recent development. Latin America had, and continues to have, a very conservative culture. The sensuality of Latin American dancing has been largely a product of American culture or that of Latin Americans in America, and was popularized by TV shows and Hollywood. While they may lack explicit sexual insinuations, Latin American dances are beautiful and clever. Additionally, they provide a mesmerizing portrayal of Latin American culture.

On Wednesday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Events Barn, Ana Maria Diaz '10 and Daniel Barrios '10, both Colombian students at Hamilton, will be displaying this different, and more original face of Latin America. With the help of their close friends, they will be putting on a show of folkloric Colombian dancing.

Ana Maria and Daniel will dance to five songs from the five different regions of Colombia. In addition to the show, which will take approximately an hour, dinner will be served from the nearby Dominican restaurant 'Joels.' "We aim to give Hamilton students a new face of Latin America, a face that they have probably never before been exposed to," said Ana Maria Diaz '10. "Folkdances are a large part of Colombian culture," emphasized Daniel Barrios '10. Originally, folk dances were popular among the common people. Nowadays, they are performed only by professional dancers or people used who have received coaching in dance academies. Daniel stressed,"unlike American folk dancing, Colombian folk dancing is only done as a performance. People in villages will put on a [dance] show during festivals and they will bring dance groups for special events." Like ballet, it takes a lot of practice and skill to be able to perform these dances. They are not folk dances in the American sense of folk dancing in which people with no dancing background can participate and steps are purposefully made to be very simple.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICHOLAS KERNAN '10

On December 10, Ana Maria Diaz '10 and Daniel Barrios '10 will be dancing in traditional Colombian clothing.

Both students have been dancing to Colombian folk music their whole lives. Ana Maria studied in one of the oldest dancing academies of Bogota, Academia Mylva Reyes, until she was 16 years old. Then, she moved to North Carolina with her mother and little sister. Ana Maria joined the academy at the age of two and had her first show the very same year in the large theater, Teatro Lisce. "We would train the whole year and then have a couple of shows every December," she said. "In the academy we had people from every age, from little children to a lady of 65." Ana Maria's mother, Pilar Rocha Goldburg, was in the same academy since age seven. Pilar will also be performing on Wednesday night along with Ana Maria's eight year old sister, Mariana.

Daniel Barrios '10 lived in Bogota, Colombia, until the age of 14 when he moved to Boston. He started dancing at age six in his school in Colombia. In Boston, he continued dancing as part of the group "Bajucol, 'Ballet Juevenil Colombiano.'" Daniel and Ana Maria have continued practicing by dancing together during their time at Hamilton and have been preparing for this show the whole semester.

In addition to wanting to share their passion and culture with Hamilton, Ana Maria and Daniel are carrying out this event as a fundraiser for two organizations. The first is Pies Descalzos (Bare Feet), an NGO founded by Shakira which provides food and school supplies, and builds schools for the children displaced by the war in Colombia. The second is STAESA, an NGO based in South Africa where Daniel will be interning in the coming summer. Money for this organization will be used to buy condoms and create sexual education workshops.

Besides raising money through donations, Colombian and Ecuadorian handmade crafts will be sold. This includes jewelry, tapestries, hammocks and clothing. During the intermission, Pablo Abreu '10 and Pablo Abreu '12 will be singing a Reggeton song, which they wrote.

This show is being sponsored by Student Assembly, the Dean of Diversity and Accessibility, the Dean of Students, the Hispanics Studies Department (who will be giving extra credit to students who attend and are currently in Hispanic Studies courses), and the Sociology and Comparative Literature Departments.

Take a study break and come at 6:30 p.m. to the Events Barn for a night of Colombian dancing, a Latin American free dinner and a sale of handmade crafts from Ecuador and Colombia!

From Where I Sit
HAMILTON'S INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Are You Homesick Yet?

By Rafael Freire '12
Features Writer

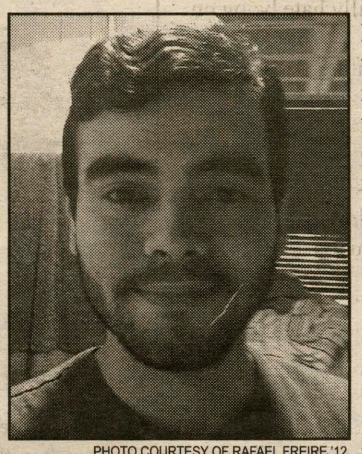


PHOTO COURTESY OF RAFAEL FREIRE '12

Rafael Freire '12 is an international student from Brazil.

Looked at carefully, the title of the present article proves to be faulty. I've had the chance to talk to a few students extensively about "homesickness." According to what I heard, the moment when you miss home the most is just right after you leave it. Accordingly, more often than not, the students stated that the number of cases of homesickness, as well as the intensity of the feeling, decreases over time, not the contrary. This has to do with the fact that at home you have a definite role, one that regardless of whether or not you like it, you are accustomed to. The urge to return home does not depend on how you get along with your parents and siblings and friends. Nor does it have to do with the feeling of "belonging" somewhere. For those who feel homesick, what bothers them the most is the displacement from a familiar community into one in which they don't know what to expect.

Now, the displacement that makes people feel homesick differs in nature from all the other displacements that cause distress. For example, when people you love decide to leave you, you are haunted by their absence. You expect that they will run into you as you walk to class; you look around when you are eating at Commons with the hope to see them; you wait by the phone for their call. Because they left you, you are incapacitated to actively look for them. You have to be found. Re-found. They move around. You wait, like in Roland Barthes' "A Lover's Discourse." The anguish you feel when your lover has abandoned you is, in this way, contrary to the anguish you feel when you are homesick. For homesick people, the object of their torment, the thing that they long for, remains stationary while they are the ones who go away, who travel off. As for college students who miss home, this phenomenon corresponds to some sort of deliberate exile.

Fortunately for students who are prone to feel homesick, we live in a time in which media has integrated and decentralized space. It doesn't matter if you are from Tucson, Arizona or Natal, Brazil; the person who determines the quantity and quality of direct communication between you and your family is yourself. Now that you can easily set up a video conference on your computer, you can see and speak to your parents thus every night if you wanted. Also, nothing stops you from text-messaging your boyfriend back home on his cell phone multiple times a day: cell phone technology has made it possible for people who are away to be "together" in a moment-to-moment basis. High-definition media as a provider of firsthand communication makes it so easy for people to be in touch, that in order to keep relationships healthy you must only track yourself down in terms of technology usage. In the end, most people would rather be homesick than sick of home.

Finally, I would like to say that I moved from Brazil to the United States three years ago and that there isn't anyone who misses home as much as I do. I have grown to understand that homesickness is overall an issue of memory. One of the students I talked to, who also happens to be an international student, told me that he tries never to think of home in order to escape from missing it. I belong to the other group of homesick people, whose antidote to homesickness is to think all the more of home. Maybe the day will come when I'll be so fully engulfed by my current life in the U.S. that I won't think of any place else as home. Until that happens, I'll nurture my necessity to think of Brazil, as I would do with something precious.

"The anguish you feel when your lover has abandoned you is contrary to the anguish you feel when you are homesick. For homesick people, the object of their torment, the thing that they long for, remains stationary while they are the ones who go away, who travel off. "

"From Where I Sit" is the ESOL column that represents the nonnative English Speaker's point of view on his or her experience.

Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

Jamon Rahn '09

Age: Love is ageless.
Eye Color: Blue
Height: 6'2

Sign: What's yours?
Hometown: Longmeadow, Ma
Major: Chinese
On Campus Activities: I actually hate being on campus.
Off Campus Activities: Adventure, Travel, Skiing, Techno, Weird Situations, Big Brother Big Sisters

Interested In: Beautiful Ladies
What You Are Looking For Now: I really enjoy friendships that come with mutual benefits.

Ideal Date:
On Campus: You'll know when you're on one.
Off Campus: The Deansborough.

If you were to prepare a romantic dinner, what would be on the menu? I make a mean Chicken Piccata topped with capers and lemons. Finish with a German Riesling and Crème Brule.
What is your ideal date wearing? Classy Dress.
Turn Ons: Wit, Confidence, Beauty
Turn Offs: When you leave a nice shirt in a girl's room and she never gives it back.

Favorites

Place to Hangout on Campus: Levitt Center, I like reading the paper.
Favorite exercise at the gym: I mostly walk around giving advice.
Song: "Everything is borrowed"- The Streets
Book: Hemingway is a bro.
Movie: Casino Royale
"Guilty Pleasure" Movie: Nailin Paylin'
Celeb Crush: Kiera Knightly
Campus Crush: She's a sophomore and beautiful.
Faculty Crush: Danielle Vegas
Breakfast: I'm more into brunch.
Favorite TV Show: Californiacation
Reality TV Show: Celeb Rehab
Quote: "All men dream, but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find that it was vanity; but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act their dream with open eyes to make it possible." –T.E. Lawrence

Ors

Light side or Dark side? I live on the Light side and vacation on the Dark side.
Innie or Outie? Innie, why pullout?
Coffee or Tea? Green Tea, I lived in China for a year.
Midnight Rendezvous or Afternoon Delight? Afternoon Delight.
Hot or Cold? *Some Like It Hot*
Rok or VT? ROK, getting I.D. by Sarg is like improv Theatre with meth and a flashlight, but I still like it.
Mac or PC? Mac
Opus or DD? Opus
Keystone light or Keystone Ice? Gin and make it neat.
Annex or ELS basement? ELS, I like trance music and lasers.
KJ or Science Center? KJ, the Levitt Center is my office.

Most attractive organization on campus: KDO, they are temptresses.
Car: Aston Martin DBS, Grey
My most attractive quality: My charm and blue eyes.
Weirdest decoration in my room: That's like spoiling the ending to a really good movie.
The outfit that epitomizes me: Obama scarves, check them out www.obamascarf.myshopify.com

If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: My own Island in the South Pacific and I would never leave.
If I were a cartoon character, I would be: I'd rather live the real life as James Bond.
The best pick-up line I have used: "Are we done with the games, or can I buy you a drink now?"
The best pick-up line that has worked on me: "Can you get me a green card?"- Ex-Chinese Girlfriend
How can someone tell that you are interested? Eyes, I'm like a wolf on the prowl.
Biography: contact: jrahn@hamilton.edu for inquiries

Kelsey Lawler '11

PHOTO COURTESY OF KELSEY LAWLER '11

Age: 19
Eye Color: Brown
Height: 5'8"

Sign: Leo
Hometown: Orange County, CA
Major: World Politics
On Campus Activities: Volleyball, IM Hockey, pretending to be on the rugby team, pretending to be a Jan

Interested In: Men, more specificially: Ruggers, Jans
What You Are Looking For Now: We'll see.

Ideal Date:
On Campus: Ice skating
Off Campus: Minar all you can eat buffet, hanging with middle school townies at Sangertown.

If you were to prepare a romantic dinner, what would be on the menu? Minar and Outback catering. Or annie's mac n cheese
What is your ideal date wearing? Rugby shorts

Turn Ons: Tumorous calf muscles, a little facial scruff
Turn Offs: Playing xbox and/or Halo all day long
Dating Deal Makers: Having a protein shake and creatine with dinner.
Dating Deal Breakers: Discussing your video game skills.

Favorites

Place to Hangout on Campus: Thrillbank 30
Exercise At The Gym: doing mad squats
Gift to Give: Money for Keystones
Gift to Get: Back massages and opus muffins
Song: "Will You Be There" –Michael Jackson (think Free Willy)
Book: Issues in Microeconomics
Movie: Almost Famous
"Guilty Pleasure" Movie: My Neighbor Totoro (Japanese anime is the best)
Celeb Crush: Obama
Campus Crush: Moon
Faculty Crush: Timothy Lehmann
Breakfast: Diner BEC on a muffin
Sitcom: Seinfeld
Reality TV Show: Lost (it's just about as real as reality TV)
Quote: "That's how I learned the word 'trimester,' when I was looking up info on abortion because I thought I was pregnant with a deformed child"

Ors

Light side or Dark side? Dark Side
Innie or Outie? Outies are kinda scary
Coffee or Tea? Opus hot chocolate with a pumpkin muffin
Boxers or Briefs? American Apparel Boxer Briefs
Midnight Rendezvous or Afternoon Delight? Both?
Rok or VT? Thrillbank 30 and the Pub
Opus or DD? Opus
Keystone Light or Keystone Ice? Peach Andre
Annex or ELS basement? ELS
KJ or Science Center? KJ

Most attractive organization on campus: Rugby
Car: VW Bus
My most attractive quality: my Sarah Palin voice
Weirdest decoration in my room: Kerri Walsh's signature on the back of a Red Sox ticket
The outfit that epitomizes me: No Tee O.T.

If I were an animal I would be: Totoro because we're both Japanese anime characters
If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: London, to feel like a Jan.
The best pick-up line I have used: "Want to see how small my Dunham single is?!"
The best pick-up line that has worked on me: "I'm a Jan…"
How can someone tell that you are interested?: Ruggers and Jans…I'm interested

If I were out with a date & were charged by a bear I would:
A) Throw my date in front of the bear and run
B) Expose my breast to the bear and scream "Take me instead"
C) Kill your date and yourself before the bear gets you
D) Team up and try to fight the bear
E) Other: Pull a Sarah Palin and shoot that mother-f^@%er dead

Think You Know A Better Bach'?

E-MAIL SPECBACHELOR@GMAIL.COM WITH YOUR BACHELOR AND BACHELORETTE NOMINATIONS!

Compiled by Erin Hoener '10, Managing Editor

Audiences to be Bitten by the Twilight Bug

By Ashley Stagner '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Fans of Stephanie Meyer's *Twilight Saga* should be happy with the first cinematic interpretation of the series, *Twilight*. Released in theaters on November 21 and already set to be released on DVD in Spring 2009, the film is currently number one on the charts and getting rave reviews.

Twilight centers on the high school love story between innocently clumsy 17 year-old Bella Swan (played by Kristen Stewart) and 91/17 year-old vampire Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson). The film, set in Forks, Washington, follows the couples' romance from their first painful encounter in their high school biology class to their budding but dangerous friendship to their inevitable relationship.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOME.WICKEDLOCAL.COM

Robert Pattinson & Kristin Stewart star in vampire flick, *Twilight*.

Edward is drawn to Bella by the smell of her blood; rarely, if ever, a vampire will meet a human who smells truly irresistible. Most vampires kill the human immediately. Yet, Edward fights the urge and leaves Forks. However, Bella, although she has never actually talked to him, is instantly attracted to him. Edward realizes two things: first, that he is mystified by her—Edward is able to read minds, yet Bella is the only one (human or vampire) on whom his powers do not work—and second, he cannot avoid her; he is constantly drawn to her. After his initial reluctance due to his fear of Bella's reaction to finding out he is a vampire (a fear that turns out have been needless) and her danger in being close to him, Edward throws all cares aside to be with her. However, like all human-vampire relationships, this one does not go smoothly.

"The film follows the couples' romance from their first painful encounter in their high school biology class to their budding but dangerous friendship to their inevitable relationship."

However, this action does not occur until the later part of the second half of the film. The majority of the first part of the film includes cuts back and forth between Stewart's and Pattinson's faces and shots of the beautiful Oregon scenery in which the movie was filmed. While these numerous cuts and Stewart's voice-over narration make the first half of the movie seem longer than an hour, they do add to the films overall cinematic beauty.

Happily, the film remains true to its source in character portrayals. Stewart makes an excellent Bella; she is capable of being the shy and clumsy girl passionate and determined about what she wants. Likewise, Pattinson fits well with his role as Edward. Yet, at times his acting seems limited to the one-dimensional role as the good-looking vamp. Edward's "brothers and sisters," Alice, Jasper, Emmett, and Rosalie (Ashley Greene, Jackson Rathbone, Kellan Lutz, and Nikki Reed, respectively) are also true to their characterizations. However, the actors are so good at portraying their characters that they tend to steal the spotlight from Stewart and Pattinson. Bella's high school friends are all there but because some details from the book have been modified, viewers need to remember their names to realize who they really are. For example, chess-playing Eric is now the head of the school newspaper and a DJ that Angela pines over, and Jessica is actually nice to Bella.

In an interview with Pam Pastor of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Stephanie Meyer said of the film, "All of us have seen books ruined as movies, and I had a lot of things that I wanted to protect. My stipulations were pretty basic: You can't kill anyone who doesn't die in the book. The Cullens have to all exist by their right names and in their right characters. Things like that. I wanted the groundwork to be there."

Meyer and fans worldwide will be more than satisfied with the film. Viewers who did not read the books will also find the movie enjoyable to watch as a testament to true love between humans and vampires...and as a source of eye candy provided by shots of the beautiful Oregon forest and, more importantly, all of the actors.

One-legged Comedian's Show is Two-pronged

By Rebekah Mintzer '09
Senior Editor

Josh Sundquist, a comedian, inspirational speaker, and Paralympics skier performed in the Events Barn on Wednesday. His presentation, *One Legged Stand Up Comedy: The funniest disability awareness program in America* featured 23 year old Sundquist relating humorous stories from his youth and about living life with only one leg. Sundquist bounded around the barn on his crutches proving that disabled people can do everything that average people can—and have a good laugh about it at the same time.

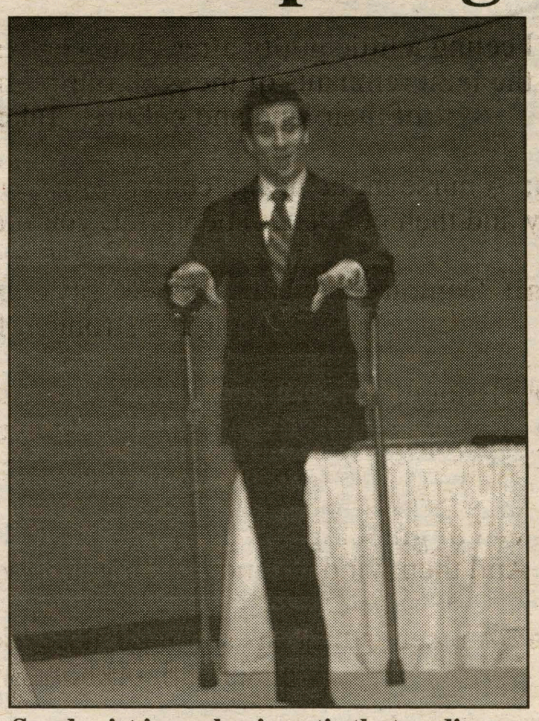
Sundquist's disability resulted from cancer that he developed as a young boy. He was given a 50/50 chance of survival and had to undergo extensive chemotherapy and a leg amputation. Sundquist persevered and managed to have a pretty normal childhood in spite of his handicap, becoming a champion skier and eventually achieving his dream of competing in downhill skiing at the Torino Paralympic Games in 2006. Since then, Sundquist has spoken at colleges and corporate events and has been featured on CNN and in USA Today.

In his performance on Wednesday, Sundquist delivered a comic routine that matched the type of praise that has been lavished upon him by audiences and the media. He performed with a youthful energy and sense of humor, and he seemed to have a natural ability to communicate with his audience on a personal level. His jokes got a great reaction from a small but enthusiastic audience of Hamilton students. Most of his anecdotes were about teenaged or college related themes—like a date in high school with a cute girl gone embarrassingly awry—to which his viewers could relate. While any teenage boy could experience a horrifically unsuccessful date because of his disability, Sundquist was embarrassed by an unusual and awkward bumble: his prosthetic leg got twisted by accident while playing golf with the object of his attention.

"Sundquist [combined] relevant humor with real inspiration."

Sundquist's physical agility, despite his missing leg, helped drive home the point that different is not deficiency. Though he used crutches during his presentation, he was in such constant and natural motion on stage that if it weren't for the subject matter of his routine, it would be easy to forget that he was missing a leg at all. Though most of the presentation focused on the humor of his experiences as a one-legged person, Sundquist also shared some very personal moments with the audience from his struggle with cancer. His tone became markedly serious as he discussed how he feared that he could never participate in normal activities like sports again after his amputation but then overcame the odds when he made it to the Paralympics in one of the most beautiful moments of his life. His emphasis on how his struggle with cancer led him to such a wonderful experience as becoming a Paralympian was the heart of his message that even one's most miserable struggles can lead to something wonderful, and despite adversity there can be victory.

Hamilton did well by inviting Sundquist, a performer who combined relevant humor with real inspiration.



Sundquist is so charismatic that audience members may forget he is an amputee.

Write for
Arts & Entertainment.

e-mail
jvano@hamilton.edu

LETTUCE HEAD

Presented by Joseph Kazacos '09

The Shawshank Redemption

Not too much can be said about The Shawshank Redemption without ruining the brilliant storyline. This is not only a graphic prison drama but also an investigation of surmounting the psychological prisons of our society and even our own minds. With ill-fated romance, multiple horrors of penitentiary life, and triumph through the seemingly most hopeless of situations, The Shawshank Redemption earns 4.7 lettuce heads. Make sure you have a good chunk of time to devote to watching it on CH54 before you sit down. It's 2 hours and 25 minutes long!

Upcoming in Wellin

by Michelle Reiser-Memmer
ARTS ADMINISTRATOR

Conducted by Heather Buchman, the Hamilton College Orchestra performs its final concert of the year on Thursday, Dec.11 at 8 p.m. in Wellin Hall.

The program will include Rossini's Overture to La Gazza Ladra, several movements of Dvorák's Symphony No. 8, Fauré's Pavane, and Saint-Saëns' Concerto No. 1 for Violoncello and Orchestra with guest artists Florent Renard-Payen, cello.

A member of the Hamilton college music faculty, Florent Renard-Payen was born in Paris to a family of professional musicians; his parents were both harpists. Educated in both France and the U.S., Renard-Payen earned a Doctor of Musical Arts in cello performance from the Eastman School of Music in 2004. Since 1999, Renard-Payen has been teaching cello at Colgate University and chamber music at Hamilton College. A champion of music of the 20th and 21st centuries, he is the founder of the Tarab Cello Ensemble and a frequent guest performer of the Society for New Music in Syracuse.

This concert is free and open to the public. For more information about this or other Wellin Hall events, call the box office at 859-4331.

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HAMILTON HEALTH & SAFETY HOROSCOPES

by Steve Allinger '09
STAFF SEER

Aries: Feeling a little guilty after your Thanksgiving feast? Don't worry, it's not from over-eating, it's just the faint remnants of the guilt our pilgrim ancestors felt after they robbed Native Americans of their land and culture. Take some alka-seltzer and it should pass.

Taurus: A nurse in the health center informed me that if you've ever had sex and then felt sick the next day and then got better soon after, you may have contracted AIDS. Boy. Isn't that comforting!

Gemini: Contrary to what "science" says, excessive drinking kills only the slow and weak brain cells leaving the stronger, fitter ones to survive...It's science.

Cancer: Bringing a friend to work out with you in the gym will make you push yourself harder… unless your friends are my friends in which case they'll convince you that Wii Tennis is the only exercise you ever need.

Leo: Instead of grabbing a bag of salty potato chips for snack time, grab a healthy sack of soy chips. And then wind up and punch your own face for owning a healthy bag of soy chips.

Virgo: A recent study has shown that doorknobs are more germ-infested than toilet seats. Try replacing doorknobs with toilet seats and vice versa.

Libra: Avoid the Bundy dining hall as a rare strain of adult SID has been bred there from a combination of stale beer, vomit, and lowered standards.

Scorpio: More condoms.

Sagittarius: As the days grow shorter, you may begin to suffer from "laziness." Unfortunately there is no cure. Except Ritalin.

Capricorn: Eat avocados, motherf*!ker!

Aquarius: Nothing beats a nice salad with low-fat dressing and a tall glass of enriched rice milk. Except for literally everything else that potentially can be called a food item.

Pisces: Sexual intercourse builds abdominal muscles, burns fat, increases mental awareness and

Weekly Charts

MUSIC
(From billboard.com)

TOP ALBUMS
1. 808s and Heartbreak-Kanye West
2, Fearless-Taylor Swift
3.Chinese Democracy-Guns N' Roses
4. I Am...Sasha Fierce-Beyonce
5. Theater of the Mind-Ludacris

TOP SINGLES
1. Single Ladies (Put A Ring On It)-Beyonce
2. Live Your Life-T.I. feat. Rihanna
3. If I Were A Boy-Beyonce
4. Whatever You Like-T.I.
5. Just Dance-Lady GaGa feat. Colby O'Donis

MOVIES
(From imdb.com)
1. Four Christmases
2. Bolt
3. Twilight
4. Quantum of Solace
5. Australia

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller List)
1. THE SHACK, by William P. Young
2. THE APPEAL, by John Grisham
3. THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES, by Sue Monk Kidd
4. THE ALCHEMIST, by Paulo Coelho
5. WORLD WITHOUT END, by Ken Follett

PAPERBACK NON-FICTION
1. THE AUDACITY OF HOPE, by Barack Obama
2. DREAMS FROM MY FATHER, by Barack Obama
3. MARLEY & ME, by John Grogan
4. THREE CUPS OF TEA, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
5. TEAM OF RIVALS, by Doris Kearns Goodwin

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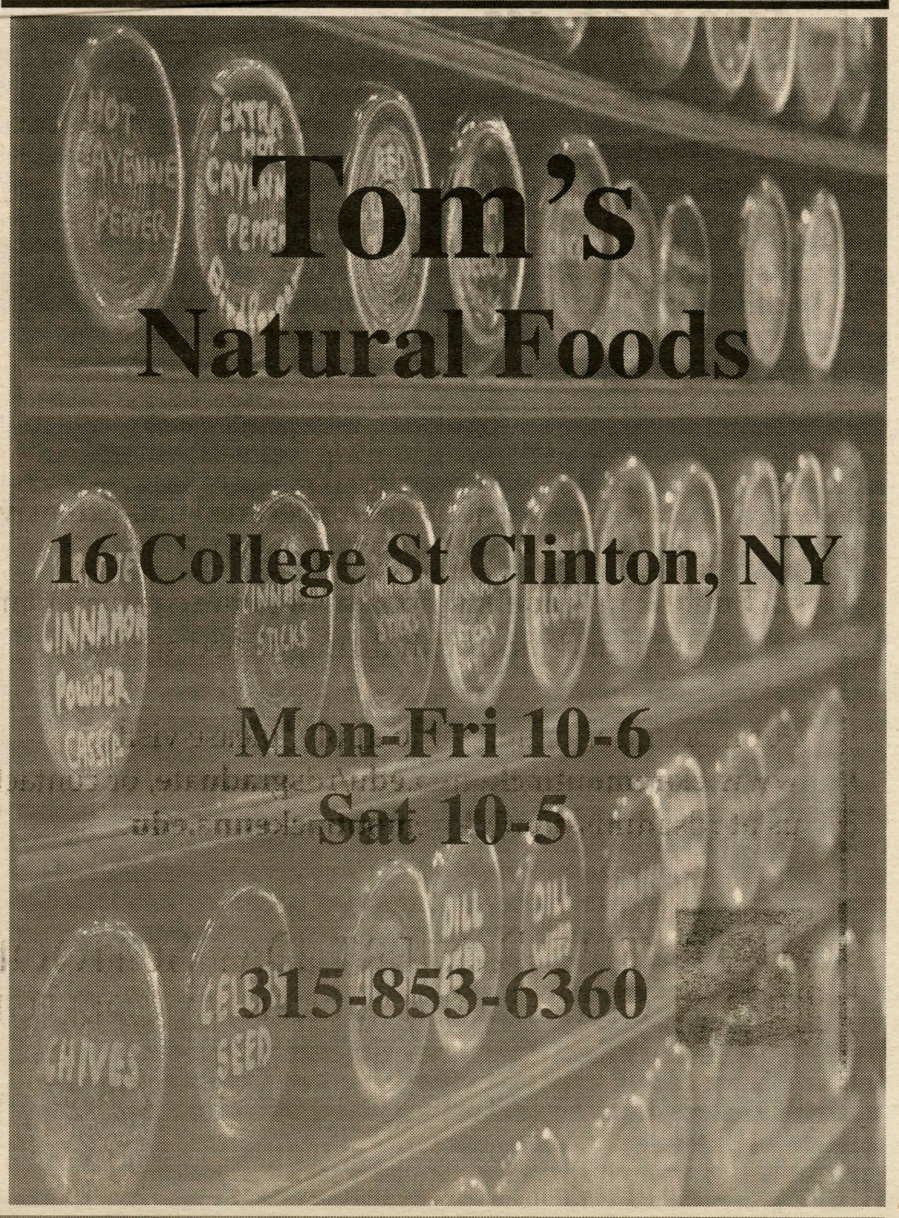

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Why You Can't Count Calories at Commons

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

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With servings getting bigger and bigger in restaurants across the country, calorie counting keeps things in perspective.

Dieting has become a part of our world and with it, so has calorie counting. While recent fads, including the famous Atkins Diet, assert that calories are secondary indicators of a food's nutritional value or lack thereof, most experts agree that counting calories is the surest way to lose weight. As a result, chain restaurants across the country have been forced to display calorie counts on their menus. As of April in New York City, for example, any restaurant that has more than 15 branches nationwide is required to include calorie counts at its NYC locations. Many other restaurants are beginning to include calorie counts voluntarily or to have calorie counts available, either for some or all items, on request. So what about Hamilton?

Hamilton's food service is provided by Bon Appetit Management Company, a California-based food service company with over 400 locations nationwide in colleges and workplaces. On the face of it, it would seem reasonable for some form of calorie count to be available for the food served at the dining halls on campus. I decided to investigate and found that, although copious amounts of general information about their food and food in general is available from Bon Appetit, both in fliers displayed on dining hall tables and on their website, www.bamco.com The closest thing to specific calorie counts for dishes on the website, though, is an index of common items, such as bread or carrots, and their calorie count on the website.

Wondering whether these figures were available by request at local sites, I headed off to eat with a new mission. For three days, I requested the calorie counts for everything I ate from the Hamilton dining halls, including the Howard Diner and the Little Pub.

Overall, the results were disappointing. At Soper Commons, I was served a macaroni dish and also this memorable quote from an employee. "The calorie count," I was informed, "goes up as you eat more." All Bon Appetit workers at the dining halls I talked to wished to remain anonymous in order to speak frankly. My luck remained abysmal at McEwen, where I was told the calorie count of one slice of pizza was, "half of two [slices of pizza]." Most workers at both dining halls seemed incredulous that I was even asking the question; apparently, the grassroots movement advocated by health campaigns like Weight Watchers to ask for calorie counts at restaurants has not spread to Hamilton.

Answers to my questions were more forthcoming at the Howard Diner, though I still didn't receive any actual figures. It was obvious someone had asked about calories before – the immediate response was, "Do you really want to know?" Unfortunately, when I said that I did, no answer was forthcoming. Apparently, the Diner workers do not want to know how many calories go into the meals they prepare, which are often the same ones they eat. One employee admitted, "I wouldn't eat here if I knew how many calories were in these things. It's all I can do [to eat at the Diner] knowing the ingredients." Likewise, a ready retort awaited me at the Pub. When I asked for the calorie count in a Woodchuck Cider, I was told, "A lot of empty ones."

My best experience was back at Commons, where one employee diligently searched out the figures for a Commons hot dog. Each frankfurter, I was told, contains 300 calories, 250 from fat. Combined with the bun (for which nutrition facts are available on the package at Commons, my lunch of two hot dogs with buns contained 840 calories and 84 percent of the USDA-recommended daily value for fat, not counting condiments or a drink.

Searching for reasons behind the lack of information, I scheduled an interview with Terri Brownlee, Bon Appetit's Regional Director of Nutrition for the Northeast. Brownlee explained that getting calorie counts at Commons and McEwen is next to impossible, since fresh meals are prepared daily from local ingredients. In addition, the entrees are not served in fixed amounts, but rather in hearty scoops. "The important thing to remember when choosing a meal," Brownlee observed, "is common sense. Beef has more calories than chicken, which has more than fish. Things like that."

Brownlee also explained the approach known as "stealth nutrition" used by Bon Appetit. "For example," she explained, 'they [the Bon Appetit workers] can trim the amount of cheese on a pizza slightly and increase the vegetable topping for a nutritional advantage for the guests – even those that would not choose an item if it's labeled 'healthy.'"

When I asked what would happen when students left Hamilton and were away from the influence of stealth nutrition, Brownlee revealed another key aspect of Bon Appetit's program. "We let students make choices," she said, citing the stir-fry bar in McEwen as a good example. "You can choose what vegetables and how many, as well as your rice and sauce," she pointed out. This choice is another reason while calorie counts probably won't be coming to Commons or McEwen - each personalized stir-fry has a unique calorie count.

At the Diner, however, portions are constant and the recipes do not change day to day. Nevertheless, change did not seem to be the order of the day. Although Brownlee said calorie counts had been "discussed repeatedly" inside the Bon Appetit management, any effort at including calorie counts on a menu, or even making them available upon request, "would have to be coordinated through student health services," said Brownlee. Whether she was referring to the Health Center, the EMTs, or the Dean of Students office was unclear.

Bon Appetit's primary concern, Brownlee said, was that people with eating disorders would obsess over calorie counts if they were available. She stressed that Bon Appetit had no economic interest one way or the other in providing calorie counts; the costs, she insisted, would be minimal. She suggested any real change in policy might take as long as three years and would also require Student Assembly involvement. In the meantime, she suggested using more general nuntrition concepts such as preferring wheat bread to white and whole wheat pasta to regular. It looks like Hamilton students won't be informed of the amount of calories they consume every day anytime soon, even if they want to know.

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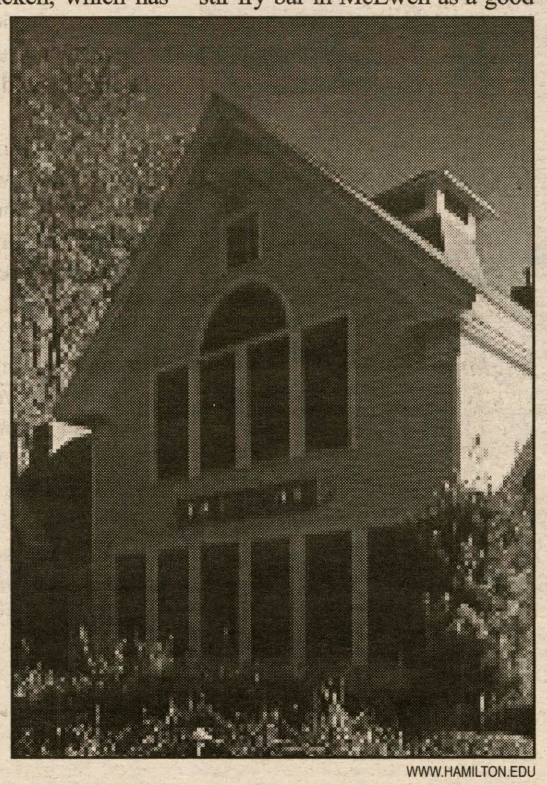

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Neither Commons, the Diner nor the Pub have calorie counts available on request.

Did You Know That?

Wacky Facts: Rollin' Rollin' on the River

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

• The United States has more than 250,000 rivers. That's 3.5 million miles of rivers.

• The largest river is the Mississippi, which has a flow volume of 593,000 cubic feet per second at its mouth.

• The longest river is the Missouri, which flows for approximately 2,500 miles.

• More than 235,000 river miles in the United States have been channelized.

• More than 50 percent of wetlands have been lost or destroyed nationwide in the past century.

• Nearly 40 percent of the rivers and streams in the U.S. are too polluted for fishing and swimming.

• Thirty percent of the native freshwater fish species in North America are threatened, endangered, or of special concern.

• On average, the U.S. has built one dam a day every day since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

• Fully 80 percent of all vertebrate wildlife in the Southwest depend on riparian areas for at least half of their life.

• Of the 1200 species listed as threatened or endangered, 50 percent depend on rivers and streams.

• At least 123 freshwater species became extinct during the 20th century. These include 79 invertebrates, 40 fishes, and 4 amphibians. (There may well have been other species that were never identified.)

• In Maine, there are 32,000 miles of rivers and streams, 6000 lakes and ponds, in addition to 3,500 miles of coastline.

• The United States has more than 250,000 rivers. That's 3.5 million miles of rivers.

• Only seven percent of the country's landscape is in a riparian zone—only two percent of which still supports riparian vegetation.

• The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that 70 percent of the riparian habitat nationwide has been lost or altered.

• Over 90 percent of the nearly 900,000 acres of riparian areas on Bureau of Land Management land are in degraded condition due to livestock grazing.

• Riparian areas in the West provide habitat for more species of birds than all other western vegetation combined—80 percent of neotropical migrant species (mostly songbirds) depend on riparian areas for nesting or migration.

• In and around the Adirondack Park you'll find some of the best canoeing and kayaking in the world. Coursing through pristine forests and dramatic mountains are more than 30,000 miles of brooks and streams, 6,000 miles of rivers and almost 3,000 lakes and ponds.

• The New River, located in the Appalachian mountains of Ashe County, is the oldest river in the nation and the second oldest in the world.

• At 8,000 feet deep Hell's Canyon, Oregon is the deepest river gorge in North America

• In 1992, 85 miles of the middle Allegheny was designated a National Wild and Scenic River, based on its recreational value. All of the middle Allegheny is class 1 water, suitable for beginners.

• The Ocoee River in southeastern Tennessee is rated among the top white water recreational rivers in the nation and was the site for the Olympic white water canoe/kayak competition in the 1996 Olympics.

• With average descents of 13 feet per mile the Green River tumbles past soaring red rock walls, desert Big Horn Sheep, pristine springs and waterfalls.

• The White River used to be a main Native American route between lower New England and Montreal, but as a walking trail, not a canoe route.

• Early settlers gave the White Salmon River its name suggested by the pale bodies of spawning fish which at times nearly choked the mouth of the stream.

• Freshwater animals are disappearing five times faster than land animals.

Artificially Intelligent Engine

by Saad S. Chaudhry '12
Science & Technology Editor

For quite some time now, many have been exposed to artificial intelligence and its immense potential for mandating human luxuries in the future by word of mouth, books, and movies such as *A.I.* and *I, Robot*. You need not be an MIT or CalTech graduate in order to appreciate the superlative complexity of any artificially intelligent design; however, very few know how soon such technology may impact our lives—the answer: right now. Yukang International Inc., a company based in New York, has recently introduced its latest project, PARDU, the world's most intelligent search engine based on artificial intelligence.

PARDU, located at www.pardu.com, is a meta-search engine, which means it gathers information from a network of other search engines, such as Dogpile, in order to answer a user's request. The website was first launched by Yukang International in 2004 as a wholesale retail business, and the business spin is still evident in this new search engine. For instance, on the homepage of the search engine, there are currency converters, stock tickers, and a vibrant link to a cyber shopping mall.

According to David Chou, founder of PARDU, the goal of the search engine is to bring luxuries such as "watching television to playing games, from reading news to checking e-mail, from listening to music to converting currency" into one webpage. The search engine is distinguished from the current leading engines in that it has more diversions than Google, with its multimedia homepage interface, and it is less cluttered than Yahoo, with seemingly less diversions due to more spaced out adverts and more noticeable white space, though some critics claim this gives PARDU a less polished and choppier image.

But, of course, PARDU most distinguishes itself with its artificially intelligent cyber-robot that attempts to answer questions that a user asks it. However, it is clear that the robot has many imperfections and still needs some time and improvement before it will be of any real help to the universal audience. For instance, when asked "Where is Hamilton College?" the robot somewhat comically replied, "Where it is hard to find. I think you already know the answer." And when asked, "Who is your creator?" the robot replied, "My master is A.L.I.C.E. AI Foundation." The A.L.I.C.E. AI Foundation is a non-profit research and training organization devoted to the development and adoption of AIML, the Artificial Intelligence Markup Language. And when asked the seemingly simple question, "Who is the president of France?" the robot, again very comically, replied, "I'm not that into politics. Who is it?"

Chou describes the inspiration for PARDU as he states, "The idea of this website was initially conceived by Yukang & Yeuming brothers after watching all the sci-fi movies where the robots infected with virus created a great deal of havoc. With all most similar instances occurring in the net regularly [and] with a lot of virus[es] infecting our computers, they decided to create a website which will address all the needs of the viewer without harming them. PARDU will be a unique search engine with a detailed text input search as well as an image search taking into account that these images are free from any virus."

Other special features that distinguish this multi-purpose search engine is a free online satellite television so that users can view televised events from all around the world that they otherwise wouldn't be able to observe if they had limited cable or satellite service. Also, this online television does not waste any bandwidth since you don't have to download anything, for, it works just as a physical television set. PARDU also has free online games and interactive lessons on multimedia.

However, PARDU's major "catch," the artificial intelligence, still needs more tweaking before it can cause an appreciable impact on the way people retrieve information for their objective needs. Until this improvement is made, PARDU will not find respectable dinstinction as a new type of search engine.

"Green Investing" for the Economy and Environment

by Yinghan Ding '12
Science & Technology Writer

For most people, global warming, climate change, and carbon footprint are not completely unfamiliar terms. In fact, we hear about these issues all the time through the media, and the catastrophic forecasts sound terrifying. Just think about the movie The Day After Tomorrow; it shows global warming leading to a rise in sea level, which ultimately causes a flood to inundate cities on the coast.

The movie is not completely exaggerated. If we don't act now to control carbon emissions, the catastrophe may come earlier than we can prepare for it. The Kyoto Protocol was created in 1992, and as of now, 183 countries and regions have ratified the treaty. However, it has had little effect in controlling climate change. What's more, as the largest producer of carbon emissions in the world, the United States is among the few countries that has not yet signed the Kyoto Protocol. As carbon emission is still high in both developed and developing countries, it is time for people all over the world to work together to prevent the potential disaster caused by climate change from happening.

The G8 Environment Ministers Meeting was successfully held this year from May 24-26 in Kobe, Japan. As a Young Climate Change Awareness Ambassador (YCCA) selected to represent young people in China, I was honored to attend the Youth Summit of G8 Environment Ministers Meeting and to meet environmental ministers from the G8 and five other countries. During the summit, I, along with YCCA Ambassadors from other countries, spoke to the ministers about our plan to tackle climate change and requested their efforts to help us achieve it. The environment ministers did pass our plan on to the chiefs of state of the 13 countries as they promised, and we are optimistic about the efforts that will be made to tackle climate change in the future.

Our theme this year is: "To tackle climate change, we must recognize the challenge, accept responsibility and respond with integrity." Three specific actions are proposed and have reviewed over 20,000 votes from young people around the world:—Integrate climate change into all education systems and demonstrate practical solutions to every community; Implement a strict international carbon cap-and-trade system to reduce emissions; Provide technology and funding for those worst hit by the inevitable effects of climate change. As a result of our proposal, climate change class has become a requirement for all high schools in the UK, a cap-and-trade system was introduced by the European Union to other countries in the world, and funding is now available to projects that are regarded as "green investments."

The green investment funds are funds that redirect investment toward companies who cause the least environmental damage and those who try to limit the output of the emissions thought to contribute to global warming. Some big foundations, like the California State Teachers' Retirement Fund, have decided to become green investors. According to the proponents of "green investment," companies, foundations and governments can more effectively fight climate change through their investments than through charities and other activities. It is certainly a new method for tackling climate change, and it may work well given the current financial situation.

However, this proposal was

see ***Make Green****, page 18*

Key and the Conduit: How Increased Social and Mobile Networks Are Impacting Lives

by David Riordan '09
Sci & Tech Senior Writer

Technologies only become interesting once they've already become ubiquitous. That's why Facebook made sense when Mark Zuckerberg & Co. launched it at Harvard: constrained to the community of Harvard undergraduates, it became significantly easier for the site to become used used by everyone, or rather everyone at Harvard. Otherwise, what good is software for your community if only one other person is on it? But moreover, it was launched at Harvard University. It was for a select group of people in a constrained location. It mattered because its users weren't just bound together by a common interest, but by a common place. And yet, while local-centric social networks have driven consumer growth, it's only the beginning of place-based social networks.

Enter the mobile phone. Actually, in most cases, it's now a computer that just happens to make phone calls. But unlike the computer on your desk, mobile phones are inherently social. Its only used with relation to other people, whether its storing birthdays, phone numbers, events, or just making calls; almost everything involves someone beyond you. With the rise of powerful mobile platforms like the BlackBerry, Android, and the iPhone, the social computer in your pocket can do everything the PC on your desk already does, but it also does a few new things. Namely: it's always on you and its always on, and you can let it know where it is. It knows who your friends are, and you use it for communicating with those friends (probably a lot more, and a lot more informally than you would even in the most nonchalant online communication. It's a totally different way of interacting than with a typical computer.

But the most important difference is that it becomes a way to link where you are to the rest of the world, and when it comes to social networks, it means the real world gets to matter more than the digital one.

Mobile phones are about to become the key and the conduit to our social networks. So you can get to scaled down versions of Facebook and MySpace on your iPhone and BlackBerry. That's information recalled on the fly. For the iPhone application version of Facebook, it's like a return to the days before the Facebook Platform, in that it acts like an interactive contact list, in that it provides information but doesn't provide the ability to search for new contacts to add. Additionally, it's just another window into the service, not a new way to fundamentally use it.

Rather, the next step for mainstream social networks is *WHERE* - location-based social networks designed to connect people in real life, rather than augment real-life relationships online.

Take Loopt, a location-based social network that's exclusively based on mobile phones. With Loopt, you can choose to let your friends know where you are in addition to what you're up to. Because mobile phones have location-based services and are on one's person at all times, it becomes possible to unlock the potentials of mass connectivity without being chained to a desk. With services like BrightKite or Loopt, the people physically around you matter. For every chance encounter with a friend on a random streetcorner, there are countless times that friends miss each other by mere moments or meters. It took two weeks for my best friend and I to figure out we worked in the same building at different firms two summers ago. Now, with these services, the potential to make serendipity happen means technology finally empowers real-world encounters and relationships. And the only way to get to this kind of connectivity is through a mobile phone.

But what about the kids? The privacy implications of this are huge and are yet to be worked out, but it appears a way to control children's safety on mobile is emerging. Verizon has been blocking all social networks from their users until they build in parental controls. That's a good thing.

Several months ago, I started using the location-driven social network BrightKite, though at the time, I couldn't use the service's core way to update - with text messages - as Verizon was blocking the service on its users phones.

WWW.EMEDIAWIRE.COM

Cell phones are no longer just utilities for making calls, but are now used for social networking as well.

Then on the heels of Loopt's demo at Apple's WorldWide Developer Conference and Gawker's proclamation that the iPhone and Loop would forever change public interactions, I started to rethink Verizon's stance on social networks using its network. Does it fundamentally make sense to block social applications until adequate parental controls are built in, particularly since their competiors are encouraging them?

Ultimately Verizon made the right buisiness decision to block BrightKite (and ultimately Loopt) until these services deployed parental safeguards. The number of web-hipsters who won't choose Verizon as their wireless provider is far fewer than the number of parents who will choose Verizon for themselves and their children because they can block or constrain the use of these social networks. Furthermore, while there's no public research on the subject, I'm fairly certain that wireless providers are going to be like political parties, children will tend to stick with the carrier their household used. So all those kids whose parents chose Verizon because it blocked social networks will stay on, even when they move off the family's bill.

Granted, this is a fundamentally rudimentary approach to mitigating privacy issues on mobile, and doesn't begin to truly address the underlying questions of digital privacy, but its a step in the right direction. It also means our social networks are about to get a lot more social.

THE DOCTOR HAS BEEN TAUGHT TO BE INTERESTED NOT IN HEALTH BUT IN DISEASE. WHAT THE PUBLIC IS TAUGHT IS THAT HEALTH IS THE CURE FOR DISEASE.

~ASHLEY MONTAGU

Make Green Going Green

from ***Green****, page 17*

not easily accepted; it was rejected by some world famous institutions such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Harvard University, Yale University, and even the United Nations pension fund. They claim that this form of investing will hurt earnings by giving out "green investment funds," and these groups will therefore take only small steps (if they take any) toward green investment. Since foundations and pension funds often have an obligation to maximize returns, they fear green investment will bring in lower returns.

As we know, the goal of an investment is to maximize profit. The profit can be economic profit, but it can be environmental profit as well. Whereas most firms only focus on economic profits, it is important to realize that, by creating a sustainable environment, everyone can benefit more in the long run. From a long-term point of view, we should be optimistic about the future of green investments.

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Benjamins can be useful for making the planet beautiful.

"'Being 'green' and being profitable are not necessarily contradictory goals for companies," Associate Professor of Economics Julio Videras explained, "There are examples of companies that find social responsibility and environmental stewardship can benefit their bottom line by improving their reputation among consumers and by eliminating inefficiencies in their production processes."

Congratulations, Dorm Energy Battle Victors!

The Science and Technology section would like to extend its sincere congratulations to Kirkland and Milbank and all the other competitors. Just because the competition is over doesn't mean conserving energy isn't important. Try making the habits you started during the challenge permanent parts of your daily routine.

Cross Country Runs Through State Championship Field

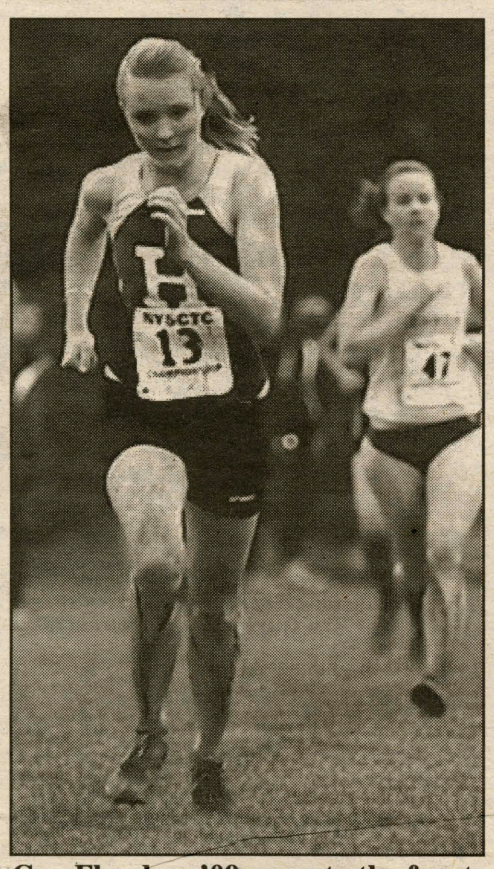
Hamilton runners are no strangers to inclement weather

by James Russell '10
SPORTS WRITER

When Cameron Gaylord '09 finally got some free time amidst a hectic weekend of job interviews and XC reunion parties, he decided to check out how his team ran in the New York State Cross Country Championships on Saturday, November 8.

When he read the times, he thought there must have been a grievous mistake. "Peter Kosgei '10 winning in 26:08? No other runner under 27 minutes?"

The senior captain's action-packed weekend had just taken a strange turn. But then he remembered, "Damp Applewagon, the rain!"



Gen Flanders '09 races to the front.

While many cross country courses do not take favorably to rainfall, the Hamilton course gets especially muddy. Any optimism the Hamilton team held onto before the race was taken away after the downpour began, approximately 30 minutes before race time. With every section of the course a muddy hurdle, the runners' only defense were six, one inch daggers inserted into the bottom of each shoe. It was man versus nature, with both sides sporting their own weaponry.

The only man to defeat nature on this day was Kosgei, winning in 26:08. Even though it was his slowest time of the season, it was his largest margin of victory.

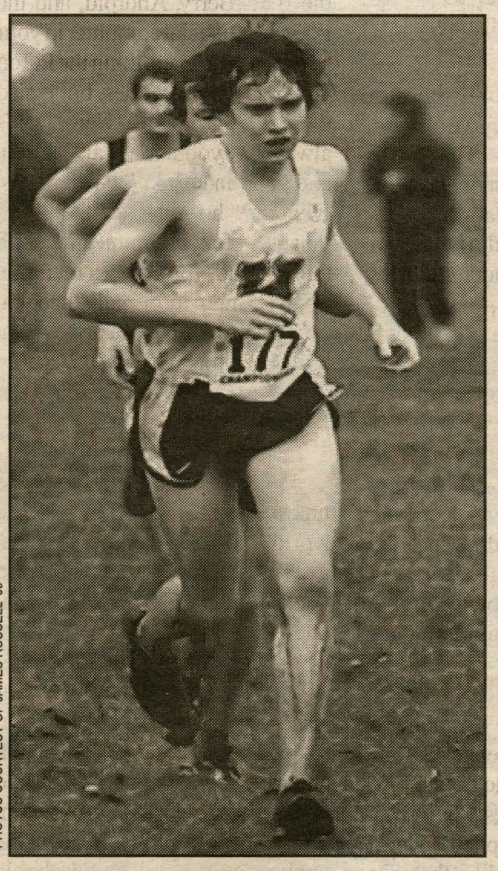
According to Kosgei, conditions like these are what "separate the men from the boys."

Falling somewhere between man and mischievous boy was Bill Reid '10 in 28:09 and twenty-fifth place (out of 89). Reid finished just four places away from all-state honors. Devon Lynch '11 used his trademark strong finish to earn twenty-ninth place (28:17). Just behind the boy wonder was Kevin Kerr '10, who squirreled his way to a thirty-fourth place finish in 28:29. Completing the men's top five was Scott Bickard '11, whose 28:37 was good for thirty-eighth place. One of Bickard's shoes was actually sucked off his feet during the race and lost in the abyss like a dismal dingy in a muddy Bermuda Triangle. Overall, the men finished fourth out of 11 teams.

Perhaps the most gentlemanly act all season for the men's team was running the course before the ladies, which helped solidify the loose earth.

However, in the words of Madeleine Gunter '11, it was still a "mud bath out there."

Fortunately, the conditions didn't keep the girls down: the top five all-Hamilton women finished in the top 21. In the process, each was named to the all-state team. In a final dart to the finish, Emily Potter '11 led the squad in 19:35, while cracking the top ten (ninth), and setting herself up for a great race next week. Meredith Fitzpatrick '11 was just five seconds and one place behind. After recovering from injury and bronchitis last week, the smooth-striding sophomore is also in a good place right now. She hopes to repeat her triumph from last year and qualify for nationals, with the bonus motivation of reuniting with her sister from Colby. Gen Flanders '09 continued her strong final season with a sixteenth place finish in 20:07. The senior seems to be on a mission this year, and has looked strong in every race. Kate Hails '10 finished in nineteenth place in a time of 20:15. Abby King '11 used her power to secure the twenty-first position, in 20:16. Surprisingly, the girls finished just third despite the strong finishes by the top five. St. Lawrence and Ithaca comfortably maintained the top two spots. They'll need to mix it up a little more with those clubs at the next meet to become contenders.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JAMES RUSSELL '09
Ian Wayne '12 runs at a steady pace.

Follow both squads as they head to St. Lawrence in what could be their final meet of the season, the regional championships. Even gutsier performances will be needed if the men's and women's teams hope to qualify for nationals.

Lady Continentals Heat Up the Ice with Wins Against Top Contenders

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite the chilly weather outside, Sage Rink has turned into one of the warmest places on campus. The women's hockey team has begun its winter season on fire with striking results on the ice. In particular, the team has demonstrated its offensive repertoire getting contributions from a number of players. The women's team has jumped out to its best start in years, going 4-2 through its initial stretch of the year.

On November 18, the Lady Continentals played host to Buffalo State and took care of business with a 3-2 victory. They started off the game with great energy, which resulted in a two goal advantage heading into the final period. Stephanie Miguel '11 contributed two points in the match by scoring the first goal and assisting Amy Allen '10 on a power play opportunity late in the second period. Offensive star Kathryn Kroleski '09 put the game away with a nice shot on net with four minutes left in the game to catapult the team to victory. Despite giving up two power play goals to Buffalo State, the team set the tone for the game and was resilient in its effort to start the season on a winning note.

Three days later, SUNY Cortland came in for a visit, but exited similarly to Buffalo State. A nine shot attempt advantage in the first period sent the message early on that Hamilton is a force to be reckoned with. The team finished with a 5-2 win after getting goals from four different players. Kate Marek '09 showed her leadership by connecting on the first goal of the game, marking the first goal scored this season by a defenseman. Miguel and Allen teamed up again for three goals and received help from Christie Sharlow '11 in the final period to ice the game for good.

To complete a home-home series with SUNY Cortland, the Continentals traveled to Cortland the next day. Just like in the previous matchup between the two teams, Hamilton came away with a decisive 3-1 victory. Despite the fact that the Continentals did not score until the second period, their offensive attack was at its best in this game as it got off 21 shots on net in the first two periods. A little more than one minute after Cortland took the lead, Kroleski put the team on her back and contributed her second goal of the year. Twenty seconds later, the game was decided off a goal by Kristen Pallen '12. Sharlow put the final touches on the match with her second goal of the year late in the final period.

Last Saturday, the number one ranked Middlebury College came to Hamilton for the first NESCAC game of the season. An early goal by Sharlow put the team ahead for a short period of time before the Panthers put the game away with two four goal surges for an 2-8 win. The difference in the game was the power play, as Middlebury scored on four of its eleven chances, while the Continentals failed to connect on any of their five opportunities. Considering that this game was against such a great opponent, Hamilton was able to learn a valuable lesson in identifying an area of weakness that can be corrected with more efficiency and crisp passing.

Although the loss definitely left a sour taste in the team's mouth, they did not let it mess up their conference matchup with Williams the next day. Allen, Sharlow, and Miguel carried the team offensively with three goals to power the squad to a 4-2 victory. Louise Roy '11 put the team ahead for good with her first goal of the year off a nice pass from Miguel.

In addition to the team's fast start on the ice, both Miguel and Kroleski are on pace to break the school record for assists in a season. Miguel is also on track to establish herself as the player with the most points in school history if she is able to continue her offensive dominance. With four players scoring three goals or more, the team is able to spread the ice and instill great fear in its opponents. No longer is the team so dependent on one player to lead the attack, which makes it a lot easier for the team to execute its game plans.

On Wednesday night, the Continentals were on the road at Rochester Institute for a nonconference game. Unfortunately, the team was unable to keep up with their opponents losing 1-6. Allen was able to convert Hamilton's lone score in the first period on a power play opportunity. Miguel captured an assist on the play and padded her already tremendous scoring production total. The lone discrepancy the team showed was its inability to stop RIT on the power play. Out of six chances, RIT scored on three of those possessions, thereby reducing any chance the Continentals had in turning in another victory.

With two games on the road this weekend, the Continentals can establish themselves as leaders of the conference if they can defeat Trinity tonight and on Saturday. Trinity is coming off of two losses and these games should be ripe for the taking if Hamilton is able to continue playing well on offense. The goaltending of Meg Shine '10 has given the team a great boost so far and with her knack for blocking shots on net, the team should not have too much difficulty preventing their opponent from getting off to a fast start.

This season looks very promising, and with so many wins in the early part of the year, it is not out of the question that this could be the best squad that Hamilton has had since its inception 13 years ago. With tremendous coaching by Head Coach Brendon Knight, the team has improved so much over the offseason and it has definitely translated into the team's success. As the season progresses, experience and leadership will come into play and it evident that this will be a strong suit for the Continentals.

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SPECTATOR SPORTS

December 5, 2008

Peter Kosgei Wins Fifth National Championship

by James Russell '10
Sports Writer

While the Hamilton student body could finally take a break from work and go home for Thanksgiving, there was one member of the student body that still had an assignment: win the Division III Cross Country National Championships. For Peter Kosgei '10, his work was due on Saturday November 22. It turned out to be not very difficult, as Kosgei won the race comfortably to secure his first national championship in cross country, and fifth overall (indoor and outdoor track).

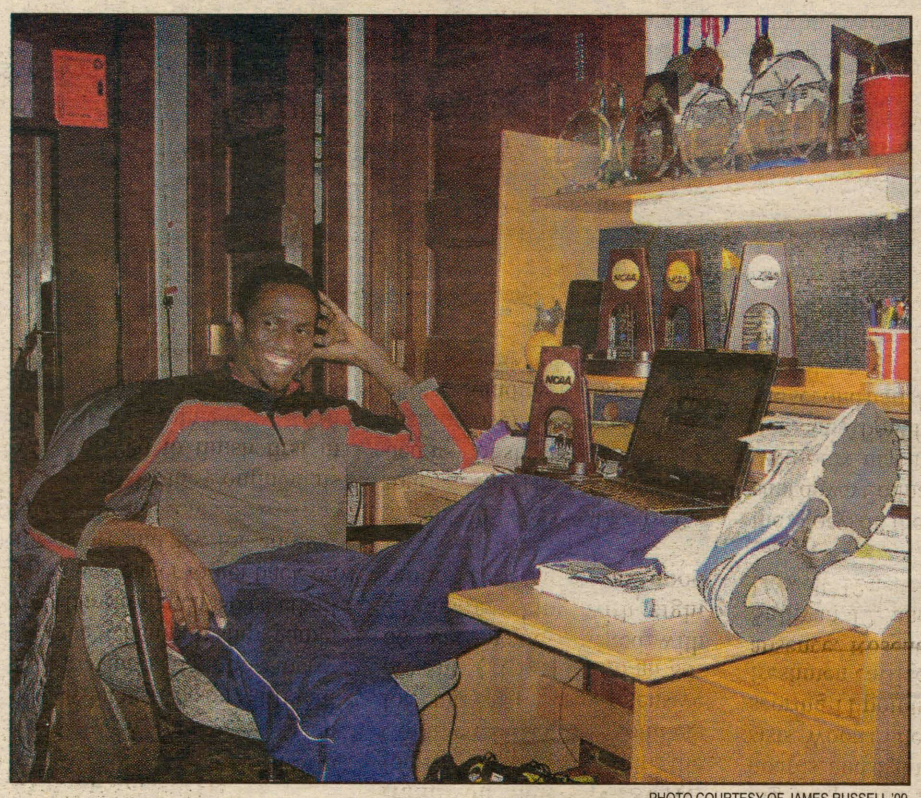


PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES RUSSELL '09

Peter Kosgei '10 kicks back after his Cross Country Championship win.

After finishing second last year in his first championship appearance (the only cross country race in his career he's ever lost), Kosgei was the overwhelming favorite this year. He ran with the front pack for the first three miles and made no attempt to quicken the pace. His style represents a perfect foil to running's pop star: Steve Prefontaine (check out the movies Prefontaine or Without Limits). He would get out early and dare anyone to stay with him. But since Peter can rely on a sprint that can challenge some NFL wide receivers, he can afford to save his energy in the body of a race and then out sprint any competition at the end.

In this race however, Kosgei decided to showcase his skills.

"I wanted to show everyone that I don't just sit back and then sprint at the end," he said.

After running with the leaders for the first three miles, Kosgei started to use his trademark surge on the hills. During these surges, he'd pick up the pace on the uphill and then resume his normal pace on the level terrain.

When nobody responded to his surge at the three mile mark, Kosgei was left all by himself for the last two miles en route to a course record of 24:22.

"I didn't want to hold anything back for this race," he said.

The biggest obstacle Peter had to deal with was the despicable behavior of the Cortland's men's team, a former Division I program. They knew they couldn't beat Kosgei so they relied on an unsportsmanlike strategy of running very close to Peter, while shoving and sometimes even clipping the back of his spikes. In a sport known for its strong community of runners no matter the team, this act ranks among the lowest of the low. Fortunately, Kosgei possessed the strength to withstand the conduct of the Cortland runners to win the race in a classy manner.

So what's next for Kosgei?

"A nice break," he said with a smile.

After a two month break from competing, the indoor track season starts, where Kosgei will be ready to complete his second semester assignments of defending his titles in the 800m and the mile.

Continentals Shoot to Four Wins

by Andrew Harris '11
Sports Writer

After last season's difficult loss to Clarkson in the Liberty League Championship game, the Hamilton men's basketball team was eager to get back on the court and try for another successful season. Led by Harlee Wood '09, the Continentals were picked to finish first in the Liberty League this season by the coaches of the different teams in the league.

In their first game of the season, the Continentals matched up against the College of Mt. St. Vincent in the Hamilton Tip-Off Tournament. Wood scored 23 points to lead the way in a high-scoring 107-93 Hamilton win. Both Lance Wilson '11, with 13 points and 10 assists, and Patrick Sullivan, with 12 points and 10 rebounds, recorded double-doubles in a balanced offensive attack. Russ Rosenband '12 came off the bench to add 17 points, as the team did not relinquish its five point halftime advantage. The team's defense, however, was more questionable, as Mt. St. Vincent shot over 50 percent for the game, and had five players in double figures. Hamilton pulled away at times in the second half, leading by 23 points at one point, in part thanks to 14 three-pointers.

In the championship game of the Hamilton tournament, Hamilton faced NESCAC foe Bates College. Again, the Continentals put in a solid effort, increasing their defensive pressure on the way to an 85-66 win. Wood finished with 23 again, along with eight rebounds, which was good enough to earn him Most Outstanding Player honors for the tournament. Hamilton continued its hot shooting as a team, making over 50 percent of its shots, including 17 more points from Rosenband, who made an impressive impact in his first two collegiate games. Rosenband scored most of his points from behind the arc, netting four three pointers to help the Continentals pull away in the second half.

For their efforts in the Hamilton Tip-Off Tournament, both Wood and Rosenband were honored on the All-Tournament team. In addition, Wood was named Liberty League Forward of the Week, while Rosenband was named a Liberty League Co-Rookie of the Week. Wood averaged 23 points and six boards during the tournament, and Rosenband contributed 17 points per game.

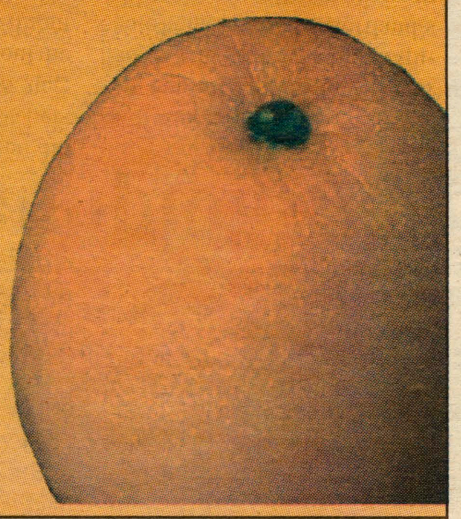
After its decisive victories in their tournament, the team turned its attention to Emmanuel College. Down by one point at halftime, the Continentals rallied in the second half for an 81-65 victory. Wilson was instrumental in the win, scoring 21 points, grabbing seven boards, and dishing out seven assists. Wood fouled out early, after scoring 11 points, but the team's freshmen carried the load in his absence. Rosenband scored 13, Sullivan 12, and Ephraim McDowell '12 netted 10. Hamilton's defense in the second half was the story of the game, as they shut down Emmanuel's shooters, who only managed to shoot 30 percent. About five minutes into the second half, Hamilton started to pull away, going on a 22-4 run to put the game out of reach.

This past Tuesday, the Continentals hosted a tough rival, Utica College. Down by two points at halftime, Hamilton again rallied in the second half, narrowly escaping with a 71-68 win. The Continentals, now 4-0 were led by Wood, who scored 26 points and pulled down 14 boards, including eight on the offensive glass. Wilson poured in 21 to help the cause, as did McDowell, who scored 12. Utica's defense held Hamilton to only 41 percent shooting, their lowest output of the season, but the Continentals' defense rose to the challenge. In each of their victories, Hamilton has relied on a different aspect of their team for help, from their offensive and defensive prowess to the depth of their bench. With results like these early in the season, the Continentals look poised to fulfill their preseason expectations and hopefully reach the NCAA Tournament.

Citrus Bowl
WHITE OUT
Friday, December 5

Come support the men's hockey team in their home opener against Nazareth!

Free T-Shirts and candy will be handed out beginning at 6:30

Game begins at 7:00

GO CONTS!!